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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
What's your level of confidence in the Legislature's ability to pass a new budget for Fiscal Year 2010 before the current fiscal year ends on Sept. 30?

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PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS
PHASE 6
As of August 27, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

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Chris Brown likely will spend the next year in group counseling sessions.

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Stayman: Get on with federalization

- Fitial administration insists on delay
- Russia, China might still be considered in visa waiver

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delaying the Nov. 28 federal take-over of local immigration is "very unlikely" given the three-month window to pass a law for its extension, U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources staffer Allen Stayman said yesterday.

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Visiting U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources staffer Allen Stayman, right, reviews documents while his fellow U.S. Senate staffer Isaac Edwards, left, and CNMI Zoning administrator Victor Barrett look on after emerging from a meeting of the CNMI Energy Steering Committee in the Seaside Hall of the Saipan Grand Hotel in Susupe yesterday. Stayman and Edwards left for Guam last night after meeting with local and federal officials on Saipan on federalization, minimum wage, and federal stimulus funding, among other things.

Review of US-CNMI relations is pushed anew

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER



Torres

With three months to go before the federal takeover of CNMI immigration on Nov. 28, Rep. Stanley T. Torres (R-Saipan) has pre-filed a bill seeking to reexamine U.S.-CNMI relations, particularly whether a "commonwealth" status is still desired by the people pursuant to the terms of the original Covenant

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4-month delay in next year's wage hike 'likely'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Congress is expected to delay by four months the next 50-cent minimum wage increase scheduled in May 2010 to give lawmakers ample time to review the results of a Government Accountability Office study on the impact of the wage hikes on the CNMI and American Samoa economy.

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WORST CASE SCENARIO: IN CASE NEGOTIATIONS FAIL

'Fund will go back to court'

SPECIAL REPORT

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

In case negotiations with both the Fitial administration and the Legislature fail, there's one more direction the NMI Retirement Fund could explore: Go back to court.

RELATED NEWS
2 retired employees drag Fitial into lawsuit vs Fund. **PAGE 6**

So says former Fund board of trustees chair Juan T. Guerrero, who said that, in a worst-case scenario, the agency still has one option left, which is to file a motion for aid of judgment either at the Superior or federal court.

"The Fund will have to go back to

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Local



DOCOMO BOOTH NMC

A student stops to see the service plans and cellular phones offered by Docomo Pacific at the Northern Marianas College's first-ever Welcome Fair held on the first day of classes, Aug. 24. Docomo was one of several vendors who were present to showcase their products and services. Government assistance agencies, like Women, Infants, Children, were also present at the Fair.

2 teens hunting for crabs find human bones instead

Two teenagers who were hunting for crabs near a beach in Dandan Monday afternoon found human bones that are believed to be from World War II.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that based on preliminary investigation conducted by police officers, detectives, and crime scene technicians, the human bones and a human skull are probably remains from the war.

Tarkong said the CNMI Historic Preservation Office was called in and two of its personnel showed up at the scene.

Tarkong said that, on Monday at 2:04pm, DPS Central received a phone call regarding human remains discovered northeast of a residence in Dandan.

Police officers responded and met the two local males—ages 15 and 19—who saw the remains.

Upon seeing the remains, a police officer radioed DPS Central and requested for detectives and crime scene technicians.

The two teenagers told police that they were hunting for crabs as bait for fish in the jungle near the beach when one of them picked up what he thought was a rock.

When he realized it was a human bone he started digging in the dirt where he then discovered more human bones. The two contacted police. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2009-2010:

PSS to serve 4.4M free meals

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Public School System will be serving a total of 4.4 million free meals to both private and public school students in School Year 2009-2010, which starts on Sept. 8.

Based on the plan submitted to the Board of Education, all meals will be covered by the federal nutrition assistance grant for Fiscal Year 2010, amounting to $8.4 million.

Saipan Tribune learned that PSS plans to serve breakfast and lunch to an estimated 14,000 children in 45 schools and 10 Head Start centers.

PSS estimates that more than 1.2 million breakfast, 2.25 million lunches, and 950,000 snacks will be served this entire school year.

PSS projects that about 13,100 students attending public and private schools will benefit from the free meals and lunches.

All menus for these meals will reflect the dietary guidelines for Americans, according to PSS.

PSS plans to use the $8.4 million nutrition assistance grant in four specific areas.

Under

It says it plans to spend $7.9 million on the system's nutrition program, covering free breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. The amount is 95 percent of the total federal grant.

Two percent of the funds—about $200,000—will be used for nutrition education.

"We will provide education and training to food service staff, teachers, students. The training and informational services will focus on sound nutritional practices, the importance of a balanced diet and meeting our school wellness goal of 60 minutes of moderate to vigorously daily exercise for students and school staff," PSS told the board in its report.

A portion of the fund—$100,000—will be allotted to purchase replacement equipment at existing school cafeterias and equipment for new schools as well as upgrading, replacement, repair and preventive maintenance for equipment and facilities used in support of the PSS nutrition assistance program.

Another $100,000 will be allocated for administrative costs, which will be used for the salary and benefits of the program's administrators.

These costs, in addition to staff, include telephone, transportation, travel, supplies, and other program related expenses.

Troops' return to augment manpower shifting at DPS

The arrival of 57 Echo Company soldiers will augment the manpower shifting at the Department of Public Safety, according to DPS Commissioner Santiago Tudela yesterday.

Tudela said the return of the DPS personnel will help increase manpower and improve DPS services.

"The returning [soldiers] who are DPS personnel will be reporting to their regular duties in both Police and Fire divisions," Tudela said.

He said each soldier has up to 90 days' leave and the troops will choose their own dates of reporting back to work.

A total of 57 U.S. Army Reserve officers with the Echo Company, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment arrived on Saipan on Tuesday after a yearlong deployment to the Middle East.

DPS spokesman Jason Tarkong told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that six will return to the Police Division, while six will return to the Fire Division.

Tarkong said one will return to the Commonwealth Ports Authority and two to the Department of Corrections.

On Tinian, Tarkong said one soldier will go back to the Police Division and two to CPA.

He has no information about Rota. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NMC's financial chief Madriaga quits post

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Just seven months after accepting a key position at the Northern Marianas College, Rogelio Madriaga resigned from the institution last week.

Madriaga was hired in December last year as chief financial and administrative officer, the position left vacant by Raaj Kurapati who served the position for many years.

NMC said yesterday that Madriaga's departure was due to "personal reasons."

As financial officer, Madriaga was in charge of several departments, including the college's Finance Office, Financial Aid Office, the Human Resource Office, the Administrative Services Department, as well as the NMC Bookstore.

His position was among the key posts cited by the accrediting commission as vital to the operation of the community college.

In a statement yesterday NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez described the former finance chief's experience as a great asset to the college.

"Roger's extensive experience and knowledge was a great asset to NMC, especially during one of the most difficult periods of the college," said Fernandez, adding that they are sorry to see him leave NMC but wish him well in his future endeavors.

The NMC was placed on probation then show-cause status by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges after it failed to address all the team recommendations in its audit.

Among these concerns was the financial aspect of the college, and WASC emphasized the important role played by a chief financial and administrative officer.

Madriaga confirmed yesterday that his resignation was strictly personal.

"The decision to resign from the college is entirely personal and reflects my desire to focus on health and other issues," Madriaga said in a statement.

He expressed gratitude to Fernandez, the members of the management team, and the Finance and Administrative Services staff for giving him the privilege of being part of a highly-competent and dynamic team.

Saipan Tribune learned that prior to becoming CFAO, Madriaga previously worked at NMC where—as director of the Office of Planning, Budget, and CIP—he led the college's efforts in planning, evaluation, research, assessment, and grant management.

He also directed the development of the college's annual budget, including the examination of departmental budget submissions, the monitoring of revenue collections, and the preparation of operational plans for all federally funded programs.

NMC said yesterday the recruitment process for Madriaga's replacement is underway.

Last week, one department chairperson left the college after his contract was not renewed by the management. Glenn Keaton was the second department chairperson to leave after the nonrenewal of his employment contract.

Of the six academic departments at the college, NMC has three vacant department chair positions for the Business Department, Science Health and Athletics Department, and the Language and Humanities Department.

These positions were left vacant by former heads Eric Plinske, Mark Haag, and Glenn Keaton.

Meantime, two individuals were named heads of three departments in acting capacities—Paz Calvo for the Nursing Department and Frank Sobolewski who is handling the two other departments simultaneously.

"At this time there are three vacancies for instructional faculty and three vacancies for department chairpersons. The recruitment process for these vacancies is underway, and the college expects to fill them soon," Fernandez earlier said.

US govt not interested in Pelisamen's truck anymore

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. government yesterday asked the federal court to dismiss its forfeiture bid on the pickup truck of former Kaipat estate administrator Luis Pelisamen.

In a motion, Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss the forfeiture count on Pelisamen's red 2005 Nissan Frontier.

O'Malley said the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have waived their rights or claim of rights to the vehicle.

O'Malley said the U.S. government also asks for a court order that, upon payment of agreed costs and fees, the vehicle will be released to the custody of the lien holder, Joeten Motors Co.

"Dismissal is sought because the government determined [that the] the value of the vehicle, less costs of storage and disposal, to likely be substantially less than the amount owed to the lienholder," he said.

Is unlikely therefore that forfeiture will make money available for satisfying a fine or restitution against Pelisamen, he added.

The U.S. government charged Pelisamen and his former lawyer, Joseph Arriola, with wire fraud and money laundering.

According to the indictment, Arriola and Pelisamen transferred funds belonging to the Rita Kaipat estate from the Bank of Guam to the Bank of Hawaii on Nov. 28, 2005, causing communications by wire between Saipan and Hawaii. Pelisamen used to be the administrator of the Rita Kaipat estate. His lawyer was Arriola, who reportedly fled to the Philippines.

Last May, a hung jury prompted the court to declare a mistrial in the case against Pelisamen. In a new trial last month, Pelisamen was found guilty of money laundering and wire fraud charges.

The court set the sentencing of Pelisamen for Sept. 29, 2009.

The U.S. government seized Pelisamen's truck arising from the criminal case. But the U.S. government last month moved to release the vehicle. The court granted the government's motion.

In yesterday's motion to dismiss, O'Malley also asked that the court order should state that any monies obtained from the sale of the vehicle that's above the amount owed Joeten Motors should be forfeited and used toward restitution.

The amount due the lien holder includes the money left unpaid on the vehicle plus interest and repair costs, and storage fees payable to the U.S. Marshals Service.











FUND

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court for aid of judgment," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

The Superior Court had ruled in June that the CNMI government owes the Fund $231 million in employer contributions. The ruling gave both parties opportunity to reconcile and satisfy the judgment themselves.

A first meeting between the Fund and the government's negotiating teams took place this week but no concrete details were finalized or agreed upon to satisfy the judgment. Both parties, in the presence of lawmakers, only presented their data and opposing views on the specific mandate of the court.

Guerrero, who stepped down as Fund chair to focus on his gubernatorial bid, said that unless the Fund stops withdrawing from its investment funds, the present problems will persist.

In the first 10 months alone of Fiscal Year 2009, the Fund withdrew a total of $38.1 million from its investments.

"Without ceasing or minimizing the drawdowns, the outlook will continue to be the same," Guerrero said.

As of June 30 this year, the market value of the Fund's investment was at $305.4 million. The Fund also recorded an investment performance loss of $41.6 million as of June, caused mostly by the continued drawdowns and market contractions.

'More risks'

After 10 years of having no fresh money being invested, there's no other way for the Fund to keep afloat but to restructure its investment policies, which Guerrero said is risky in today's investment climate.

He said the mandate for the Fund to be fully funded by 2045 and the constitutionally mandated obligation to pay monthly pensions "more or less requires the Fund to restructure its investment policy."

In an earlier report to the board, the Fund's comptroller disclosed that based on the latest investment data and records, the Fund may last only up to seven years. However, if the current market condition worsen, this may be shortened to just three years.

"If market conditions will continue to show a positive turn, we can hope for seven more years of the Fund's life. But because there are extraordinary events that may come in, we're also expecting a shorter term of maybe only three years," the comptroller told the board in one of its meetings.

Every year, the Fund pays out $5 million to $7 million in pension benefits to members and other obligations.

'Follow the law'

For retiree Agnes McPhetres, a worst-case scenario for the retirees and the Fund could be prevented if only both parties will abide by the law.

"People will lose the Fund in three years…that's the worst case scenario, and if that happens millions of dollars that are coming out on a monthly basis, which gives the CNMI cash flow, will be gone," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The loss of the Fund will mean the absence of food on the table, the unavailability of health insurance for people, and unpaid obligations, said McPhetres, one of the officers of the newly formed Commonwealth Retirees Association.

If negotiations between the parties fail, the situation will be risky to everyone concerned, she said, hence the need to follow the law.

"First of all, they should follow the law, which says that there is money that can be set aside to pay the obligation to the Fund such as the hotel tax, liquor tax, and poker tax. But somehow these are not being followed…" she said.

McPhetres said the Fund board must also be frugal and cautious in making decisions on the Fund's investments.

She recommended the selection of the best money managers to get better results.

McPhetres refused to comment if she's in favor of the Fund going back to court in case negotiations fail.

"We need to study the pros and cons [of the idea]," she said.

4-MONTH

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U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources staffer Allen Stayman said this during a news briefing yesterday.

A GAO team is currently in American Samoa for the minimum wage study. A similar study will be done in the CNMI.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan earlier urged employers to cooperate with GAO on the wage survey.

"Congress is expected to pass a short delay in the next minimum wage. Final action has not been yet taken. It will only delay it for four months," Stayman said, adding that this will give Congress time to evaluate the results of the GAO study.

This will bring the next round of minimum wage hike to September 2010.

Currently, the CNMI's minimum wage is $4.55 an hour, after another 50-cent increase on May 26.

"The results of that [GAO] study will be considered by Congress and the policy may or may not be changed based on that consideration," said Stayman, who visited Saipan on Wednesday and Thursday along with first-time visitor to the CNMI, fellow U.S. Senate staffer Isaac Edwards.

That report is due April 15, 2010.

The Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 amended the Fair Labor Standards Act, increasing the general federal minimum wage. A separate provision of the amendments brought about phased increases to the minimum wages in American Samoa and the CNMI.

Under this provision, the minimum rates in these territories increase 50 cents an hour each May until they reach the minimum wage level of the United States.

Increases occur each year in American Samoa on May 25 and in the CNMI, which is across the international dateline, on May 26.

Prior to the FLSA amendment, special industry committees that met biennially set the minimum wage rates in American Samoa.

Before enactment of the FLSA amendment, the CNMI government, under the authority of a Covenant between the Northern Marianas and the U.S. Congress, set the CNMI minimum wage.

The CNMI and American Samoa have been asking for a delay in the minimum wage increase, citing severe impact on their economies.

American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono had said the increasing wages have already pushed one tuna cannery out of business and may force the shutdown of another.

The CNMI government had said it cannot sustain a minimum wage at this time, with a protracted public utility crisis, the global recession, a government pension fund crisis, and the application of sweeping new federal immigration and labor policies that may exclude two major tourism markets for the CNMI: Russia and China.

REVIEW

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agreement.

House Bill 16-271 seeks to create the Second Marianas Political Status Commission, to also determine whether the continuation of a commonwealth status is in the people's best interest, or whether some other political status would better enable them to fulfill their aspirations of full and meaningful self-government.

This is Torres's fourth bill of a similar nature since 1997, and the fifth introduced in the Legislature since 1990.

The first of such legislation, House Bill 7-165, was introduced by former Speaker Pedro R. Guerrero on Aug. 17, 1990.

Yesterday, Torres told *Saipan Tribune* of the importance of giving the CNMI people a "chance to revisit a treaty made 34 years ago to see if it is working out as promised."

"Periodic evaluation of any agreement is key to maximizing its effectiveness. In that vein, our Covenant with the U.S.A. is certainly worth taking the time and effort necessary to closely re-examine it," Torres said.

Torres was supposed to formally introduce the bill yesterday, but the House session was cancelled.

When asked for comments, Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan, the CNMI's first non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress, said Torres can introduce any bill. He said he has yet to see a copy of the bill.

Commission

H.B. 16-271 or the "Second Marianas Political and Economic Status Commission" seeks to create a commission consisting of 11 voting members and two non-voting ex-officio – the Senate president and the House speaker.

The 11 voting members would include two each from Saipan, Rota and Tinian, and five to be appointed by the governor.

Among the commission's duties is the conduct of a political education and polls to ascertain desires of the citizens regarding their present and future political status.

The bill also authorizes $200,000 as initial budget for the commission to begin operations. It authorizes the Legislature to appropriate additional funds as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the measure.

STAYMAN

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Stayman, a former director of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, also said that delaying federalization is not going to reduce the uncertainty the CNMI faces.

He also said there hasn't been any discussion of granting improved immigration status to long-term workers in the CNMI in the U.S. Congress right now, other than a report to be done by the Interior with recommendations and options.

The Interior report is due in June 2010, and only then will Congress start to formally consider the options.

When asked about these options, Stayman said, "Well everything in the range of 'deport everybody' to 'give everybody green cards' and anything in between."

Stayman, however, said that Russia and China "might" still be considered for inclusion in the joint Guam-CNMI visa waiver program given that the regulations are not in their "final" form yet.

"This is going to be a difficult transition and it may be that the best thing you do is to just get on with it. The further delay is not going to reduce the uncertainty that we're currently facing. What's going to resolve the uncertainty and the questions is to get on with the process," Stayman told reporters after emerging from a meeting of the CNMI Energy Steering Committee at the Saipan Grand Hotel in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

With fellow U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources staffer Isaac Edwards beside him, Stayman said the U.S. Department of Homeland Security "has a lot of flexibility to deal with things as they come up and I think that maybe the best way to end the uncertainty and this transition is to get it started."

Edwards, who was visiting Saipan for the first time, also shared the concerns of many in the CNMI—that there's a lack of communication from DHS about when the federalization regulations will come out and how they will be implemented.

Stayman said the CNMI does not have a U.S. citizen population that can meet its labor requirements, but there are two options to address this matter.

One is for the federal government to take over the guest worker program wherein their paperwork would shift from CNMI to federal, and second—which he said is a "more permanent solution"—would be to provide status under U.S. immigration law.

CNMI employers, he said, also have to consider giving two-year contracts to their employees to allow them maximum time while DHS puts forth the regulations and procedures. DHS is expected to release the regulations soon.

'It can work if done right'

Press secretary Charles Reyes reiterated the Fitial administration's five major reasons to push for a delay in federalization.

These are the lack of an economic study prior to the law's passage, absence of draft regulations for foreign investors and worker visas three months before implementation, the exclusion of Chinese and Russian tourists in the visa waver program, DHS' lack of funds and personnel to conduct business on Nov. 28, and bad timing.

"Federalization will be implemented at the worst possible time, amid a global economic recession, a Japanese recession, the complete collapse of our garment industry, and softness in our tourism industry. It is being implemented along with federal minimum wage hikes during a time of economic vulnerability for the Commonwealth," Reyes said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial met with Stayman and Edwards, who were here on Wednesday and Thursday before going to Guam.

"Federalization can work if it is done right and at the right time; if it provides the needed market access and flexibility for economic development; if it is well organized and well funded. Right now federalization, as currently written in law, is seriously flawed and its hasty implementation presents some very serious economic risks for the Commonwealth," Reyes said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, who accompanied the visiting U.S. Senate staffers along with OIA field representative Jeff Schorr, does not support a delay in federalization but wants DHS to implement the rules "right."

Stayman said some members of Congress have expressed concern about the visa waiver regulations, particularly the exclusion of China and Russia. The CNMI said it will lose more than $100 million with lack of access to these two tourism markets.

"We will be meeting with them tomorrow. We hope to get confirmation that they're reconsidering that but we can't say for sure. These regulations are interim; they're not final regulations. But for the final regulations, they might reconsider including China and Russia," he said.

Meetings

While here, Stayman and Edwards met with Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, Sablan, members of the 16th Legislature, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, and federal representatives.

"In these meetings, I indicated that I don't think a delay is possible because the deadline is so near and the amount of time it would take to pass a new law authorizing a delay is very unlikely… Also there's a policy question of whether that's the right thing to do," he said.

Stayman's last visit to the CNMI was in February 2007. That year, the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which has jurisdiction over U.S. insular areas, asked the Interior to draft the bill that became the basis for the federalization law, Public Law 110-229.

In the late '90s, Stayman had actively pushed for federalization of the CNMI in his capacity as Insular Affairs director. At that time, the CNMI government and the business sector successfully lobbied against federalization.

Stayman and Edwards said they are here for a routine fact-finding mission, given the jurisdiction of the Senate committee they work for. Also on island are two Interior legislative liaison personnel.

Besides federalization, the two were here to find out more about progress the CNMI has been making in meeting the requirements of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to be able to receive stimulus funding. They said the CNMI is eligible to get up to $130 million in ARRA money.

Yesterday, for example, the two were the special guests at the CNMI Energy Steering Committee meeting, along with Sablan.

Chamber: Tax break plan lacking financial analysis

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has expressed concern over the lack of any financial analysis done to determine whether a pending bill proposing to reduce the personal income tax would indeed help the economy recover.

House Bill 16-250, introduced by Rep. Joseph Reyes (R-Saipan), seeks to exempt from paying personal income tax those earning $25,000 or less annually and reducing the income tax of others except those whose annual incomes are over $100,000.

Chamber president Jim T. Arenovski said the business group is "greatly concerned" that there is no reference to any financial analysis having been done to determine whether the income to the government that would be lost through the reduction of taxes for the vast majority of wage-earners would be offset by the 1 percent increase in taxes paid by the relatively small number of highly-compensated individuals earnings over $100,000 a year.

"Unless and until such an analysis is prepared by the Division of Revenue and Taxation, we are unprepared to accept the finding that 'tax revenue loss being collected from the lower wage earning individuals … will be offset by the income tax collected from the higher wage earning individuals,'" Arenovski said in a letter to House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan).

To illustrate his point, the Chamber president used as an example the approximately 18,000 foreign workers in the CNMI.

Assuming that all these workers are minimum wage earners, he said, their aggregate annual income would be about $170.352 million. Taxed at the current level of 4 percent, that represents $6.814 million of income to the CNMI government.

Arenovski said in order to offset such a loss through the proposed 1 percent increase on the highest taxpayer level would require 6,814 individuals earning $100,000 a year whose taxes would increase from 9 percent to 10 percent.

The Chamber president said the actual consequences would likely be much more severe, inasmuch as the tax reduction would apply to all taxpayers earning less than $100,000 per year, not only the lowest wage earners.

The Chamber also took issue with H.B. 16-250's assertion that "funds not paid in income taxes because of this proposal would nevertheless be spent in the local economy."

In the first quarter of calendar year 2009 alone, $16 million was remitted out of the CNMI, representing an outflow of nearly $65 million on an annualized basis, he said.

"We believe it is far more likely that a large portion of increased take-home income would be remitted by foreign workers to their home countries," he said.

Many of the foreign workers in the CNMI are from the Philippines, China, Bangladesh and Thailand.

In 2005, remittances reached $112.6 million, and dropped to $102.2 million in 2006. It further plunged to $93.6 million in 2007 and to $76.8 million in 2008, Department of Commerce data shows.

Meanwhile, H.B. 16-250 exempts those who earn $25,000 or less from paying income tax, while imposing a 6 percent income tax on those earning between $25,001 and $50,000 annually.

Those who earn between $50,001 and $100,000 will be taxed at 8 percent, while those earning over $10,001 annually will be taxed 10 percent.

He said the funds not paid in income taxes because of the proposal would nevertheless be spent in the local economy and result in economic growth for the CNMI.



HONORARY ROTARIAN MICHAEL TRIPP

IT&E chief executive Officer Ricardo Delgado, center, was recently bestowed the "Honorary Rotarian," award, one of the highest awards given by Rotary Clubs, to persons who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals and those persons considered friends of Rotary for their permanent support of Rotary's cause throughout the communities. Joining Delgado are Saipan Rotary Club past president Ben Babauta, left, and president Kim Forrester.





2 retired employees drag Fitial to lawsuit vs Fund

Plaintiffs seek receiver to enforce $231.7M judgment

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Two retired government employees who sued the CNMI government in federal court last June over alleged non-payment of their retirement benefits amended their complaint yesterday to include Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and others as defendants in the lawsuit.

In their original complaint, the plaintiffs had named as co-defendants the U.S. government and 200 unnamed others in their official and personal capacities.

Maryland-based lawyer Bruce L. Jorgensen is representing the plaintiffs, whose identities are being withheld, apparently due to fears for their personal safety and of retaliation and persecution.

In the amended complaint, the defendants are Fitial, NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees acting chair Pedro Q. Dela Cruz, trustees Sixto K. Igisomar and Adelina C. Roberto, acting Finance Secretary Robert Schrack, the NMI government, the Fund, the Fund board of trustees, and the Department of Finance.

Also named co-defendants are the U.S. government, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, and 95 unnamed co-defendants.

The plaintiffs are suing the defendants for deprivation of federally protected property rights/interests, violation of U.S. civil rights, conspiracy, breach of fiduciary duty/constructive fraud, and misrepresentation.

Jorgensen asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue a declaration holding CNMI Public Law 15-15 unlawful under U.S. law as a violation of rights and protections guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

P.L. 15-15, which Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law in June 2006, suspends the CNMI government's payments to the Retirement Fund during a portion of Fiscal Year 2006 and all of 2007.

Jorgensen asked the court to certify the proceeding as a class action and appoint a counsel to represent the plaintiffs.

Jorgensen also asked the court to appoint a receiver for the Fund and to compel U.S. officials, including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Office of the U.S. Inspector General, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to investigate whether federal laws and regulations have been violated by the CNMI defendants.



NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Shown in photo are the community partners of the Saipan Municipal Council Leadership Memorial Courtyard project. Seated are Ben. T. Camacho, council chair Antonia M. Tudela and former mayor Frank Diaz. Standing from left are Leon Guerrero from the Historical Preservation Office, Public Works Secretary Diego Songsong, John Palacios, also of HPO, Martin Sablan, Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Ignacio Dela Cruz, council vice chair Ramon B. Camacho, project consultant William Torres and council member Felipe Atalig.

Nominations for memorial courtyard now open

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The submission of names of persons who should be honored in the Saipan Leadership Memorial Courtyard is now open.

The project's planning committee kicked off the nominating process during a meeting yesterday at the Saipan Municipal Council office in Chalan Kanoa.

Project consultant William Torres said they are seeking the help of the community in completing the list of names to be placed on the memorial.

"While the memorial will be updated in the future as new leaders are added, the planning committee would like to see the first listing of names on the memorial to be as accurate as possible," Torres said.

The leadership memorial will include the names of elected leaders from Saipan during the period of the CNMI's political status as a Commonwealth of the United States.

Torres said this would also include significant appointed leaders prior to the inception of the Commonwealth.

These may include appointed or elected mayors, early Marianas district leaders, chiefs of police, elected or appointed representatives, and others.

Families of past leaders must submit names, titles and any other pertinent information related to the individual and their position to the planning committee either in writing or a nomination form.

The form can be picked up at the Municipal Council office or at the NMI Museum of History and Culture or via e-mail to spnmunco@yahoo.com or roberthhunter@gmail.com.

The form can also be faxed by request at 664-2170.

Deadline for the first round of submission of names and information is Sept. 18, 2009.

Groundbreaking

Committee members also finalized the groundbreaking ceremonies during yesterday's meeting, agreeing to do it on Sept. 24.

"It is imperative that anyone interested in submitting names for possible inclusion on the memorial do so by the above deadline," Torres said.

Torres said the initial budget estimate for the project was a little over $200,000.

"However, changes were added to the project, making it a two-phase project with a total estimated budget of just under $500,000," he said.

The actual construction cost would be determined after the opening of Phase 1 bid. "Phase 2 will follow and we'd have an amount when the bids are opened," he said.

Possible bidding for Phase 1 may take place around October-November and the construction will commence before the end of the year. It is expected to be completed by next year.

Torres said this project is a major component in the revitalization efforts to recognize Chalan Kanoa as the capital of Saipan.

"This is a legacy that we would like to instill for the community of Saipan," he said.

Committee member Ben T. Camacho said the project would be a way of educating the people "and ourselves of our past."



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One credit approved for religion courses

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Religion courses will soon be accepted for credit by the Public School System following the Board of Education's decision yesterday to change policy and provide one credit for these subjects.

The credit will be included in calculating a student's grade point average.

The change in regulation will now be posted in the Commonwealth Register for public comments prior to final adoption by the board.

Prior to the decision, board members had a lengthy debate on the subject, particularly on how many credits they will assign religion courses. The original committee recommendation was for three units. An executive session was called twice to "clear" the board members' confusion on the matter. The final vote stood at 3-2.

The two who voted against giving only one credit were Galvin Deleon Guerrero and Tanya King, who wanted to assign two to three credits for each religion subject. Lucy Blanco Maratita, Herman T. Guerrero, and Marylou Ada prevailed with one credit per subject.

Non-voting member Scott Norman, the private schools' representative to the board, expressed frustration with the board's decision and urged members to reconsider. He recommended that the subject be given 2 credits help a significant number of students who are affected.

Deleon Guerrero, chairman of the committee that endorsed the three-credit proposal, concurred with Norman.

"I think giving the subject two credits is a fair compromise. One credit, for me, is not acceptable," he told the board, adding that he is disappointed with the result since early board discussions focused on giving two or three credits for the subject.

According to board chair Blanco-Maratita, giving three credits to religion subjects will force the board to go back to the issue of constitutional mandate. She said PSS needs to explore more opportunities in offering elective courses.

Based on PSS policy 2510, no religion course credits can be accepted by public schools—even as electives.

The issue arose after several students from private religious schools transferred to public schools, mainly because of the persistent economic slump that is forcing many parents to take out their children from private schools.

These student transferees encounter problems because their religion subjects are not being credited. These results in them lacking the required amount of units to graduate on time.

A high school student needs 28 units to meet the graduation requirements.

A board committee had proposed that any religion course be accepted as elective credits for graduating students.

In early board discussions, Deleon Guerrero had said that not considering the plight of affected students is in contrast to what PSS and the board is promoting about "Student First" and "it's like penalizing students for the decision made by their parents when they transferred to public schools because of the bad economy."

$34K grant helps battle papaya virus

To minimize the harmful effects of a virus affecting local papaya fruits, the Northern Marianas College's Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service, a program under the Division of Community Programs and Services, has secured a $34,000 grant for three years to fund the development of a line of papaya species resistant to a particular virus.

CREES scientists will be conducting research on the islands' local varieties of papayas, one with red flesh "Dagua" and one with yellow. Red-fleshed papayas are favorable among the farming community; however, they are susceptible to the virus. CREES scientists will be studying virus-resistant characteristics of yellow-fleshed tolerant variety of papayas, which still produce fruit in spite of infection. Those resistant characteristics will then be transferred into red-fleshed papayas through traditional breeding and genetic methods.

The virus, known as the papaya ringspot virus, develops microscopic ring-like extensions, which appear as dots and streaks on the fruit's skin. The virus also causes malformations in plant's stem, petioles, and leaves.

The competitive grant, which was issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (T-Star), funds a program titled "Improvement of Papaya Cultivars from the Mariana Islands for Uniformity and Papaya Ringspot Virus Tolerance."

The Marianas aspect of the project is led by a collaborative effort between CREES and University of Guam plant pathologist Professor George Wall. Heading the Saipan research group is Dr. Dilip Nandwani, who is a plant pathologist at CREES and program leader for Crop Production and Improvement. This is one of the several research projects with Dr. Nandwani currently ongoing on banana, taro, sweet potato, coconut and Dao'k.

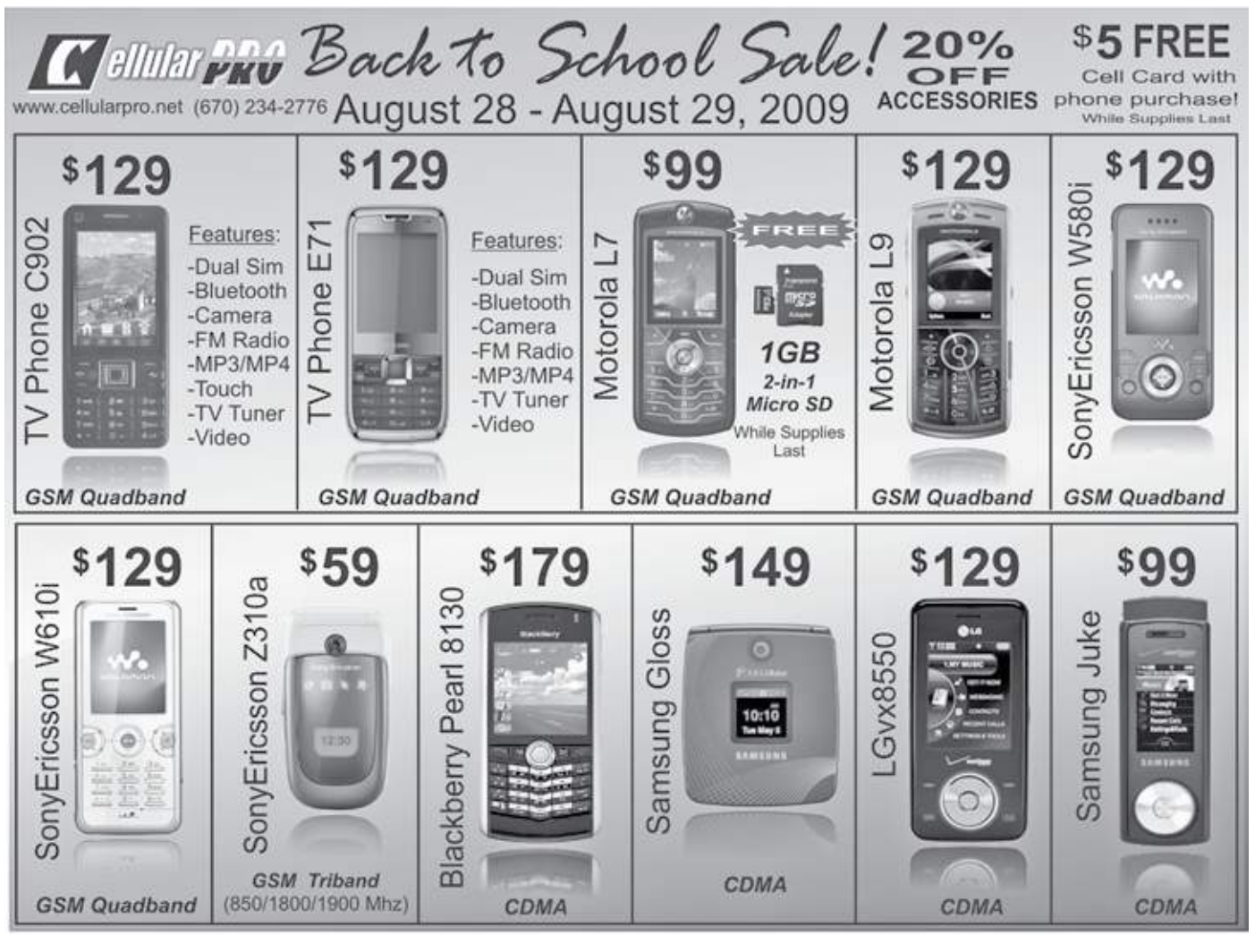
According to Nandwani, the development of a tolerant species will require about six to seven years of research, as studies must be conducted on six to seven generations of samples of papaya, a plant that produces fruit within a year planting. UOG, which has been engaged in the project for nearly two years, has given CREES some seeds from its first generation samples.

"With the samples we have received from UOG's first generation, we will be able to commence our research with prior findings and observations," said Nandwani. "With the proper experiments and studies, we will be able to release our fourth generation plants to commercial farmers."

In 1995, scientists in Hawaii developed virus resistant transgenic papayas through genetic engineering techniques. However, this type of papaya cannot be legally grown in the Marianas due to strict regulations and patent rights in the state of Hawaii.

"With the elimination of male plants and plants with deformed fruits, we can look forward to produce a larger supply of virus-resistant papayas through breeding program" Nandwani added.

"This research is yet another example of NMC's efforts to assist the community in battling agricultural menaces," said Tee Abraham, Dean of Community Programs and Services. "We will continue to offer assistance, guidance, and resources to the community through extensive research and study." ***(NMC)***



Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug 28, 2000

House approves $222-M budget

The House of Representatives approved the FY 2001 budget package on Friday amounting to $221.66 million, augmenting spending limit by the legislative and judicial branches as well as key government agencies. For the first time, lawmakers also agreed to transfer responsibility of paying government utilities to each department or agency in an effort to encourage power and water conservation in public offices. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio had asked a change in the current payment system when he handed the budget proposal to the Legislature in April on the heels of the government's mounting obligations to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

Feds scrap funding for Tinian breakwater repair

Repair of the dilapidated Tinian breakwater suffered yet another halt after funding for a feasibility study that was supposed to be carried out by the United States Army Corps of Engineers has been reportedly scrapped from its Fiscal Year 2001 budget. Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said the sudden change in the program was reported to him during his visit to Hawaii last week, where he was also informed that the $100,000 budget for the study will not be available until the succeeding fiscal year. The $100,000 budget has been earmarked by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a study on the extent of the breakwater's damage in order to identify how much work should be done and how much money is needed to restore the facility.

Aug 28, 2001

Bird population in Farallon declining

The United States Navy yesterday admitted that there has been a decrease in the number of birds in the CNMI, particularly on the island of Farallon de Medinilla, which is being used for military bombing exercises. This developed as the Navy reiterated plans to extend bombing exercises by the military to Tinian. At present, there are at least eight types of ordnance being used by the military in the Farallon de Medinilla exercises. "The decrease in the number of birds in the Marianas is being seen," Lt. Monica M. Richardson, the Naval Forces Marianas' public affairs officer based in Guam, told the Saipan Tribune by telephone yesterday.

NMC Fall enrollment soars 21%

Massive marketing efforts by the Northern Marianas College paid off as the institution recorded a hefty 21 percent increase in enrollment figures for the Fall 2001 semester. The college's full-time equivalency reached 960 for the current term as opposed to the 796 FTEs during Fall of last year, according to enrollment records compiled as of August 20, 2001. "I think parents also recognize the poor economic conditions and have opted to send their children to CNMI's lone college instead of making them attend off-island colleges or universities," said NMC Institutional Development Director Tony Deleon Guerrero.

Aug 28, 2002

Classroom shortage in public schools

The Public School System is anticipating an acute shortage of classrooms in several government educational institutions, as student population grows by an annual rate of 5 percent. The PSS said Kagman and the northern portion of Saipan are among the areas with the fastest growing student population, considering the large new homesteads in these villages. Based on the PSS-Capital Improvement Project Report, Saipan is the only island throughout the Northern Marianas expecting a classroom shortage over the next five to seven years.

No shortlist yet on new AG

The Babauta administration has given itself a deadline of two weeks to come up with its choice of the person who will slide into the vacant seat of the Attorney General. Just before leaving for Tokyo on Monday, Gov. Juan N. Babauta said it will take his administration a week or two to shorten its long list of possible nominees to the post to just one name. "It's going to take us about a week or two to come up with a name. Of course, some names have come out prematurely and it certainly is not a final decision yet," said Babauta. At the same time, he stressed that, regarding the reason for Robert T. Torres's resignation as Attorney General, it would be more appropriate if the explanation comes from Torres himself.

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EDITORIAL

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy

Ted Kennedy once said that his own legislative record was one he'd love to run against. A number of people tried, of course, and lost. But then, they weren't Ted Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy spent 46 years in the Senate hewing pretty steadily to his course while others trimmed or just plain bailed out.

He remained committed to a brand of New Deal and postwar liberalism that, even when it had lost some of its luster and had run up against a conservative tide in politics, still had much to offer the country. Mr. Kennedy knew that he was one legislator who could take the stands he did and not worry about re-election. More important, he advanced his causes with passion and energy, and, because he was able not only to work with colleagues all across the political spectrum but also endear himself to many of them, he became a major force in the Senate and the country. Such was his authority that many people this spring and summer believed health care reform would have advanced much further through Congress had Mr. Kennedy been healthy enough to assume his customary shepherding role.

One winter's day during the most recent presidential campaign a crowd numbering in the thousands gathered on a Washington campus and overflowed the fieldhouse to hear the senator give his blessing to a new colleague who was a little over a year old when Ted Kennedy came to Washington. That the old "Lion of the Senate," as he was often called, could have done so much to help Barack Obama's campaign take flight that January day was testimony to both the enduring appeal of the Kennedy name and to the connection much of his party still felt to Mr. Kennedy and his causes. Throughout his career he stood by some of the country's most neglected and abused people: minorities, immigrants, the poor and those lacking access to good health care, to name just some of them.

When Mr. Kennedy first ran for the Senate from Massachusetts, he wasn't even quite old enough to serve, and his record, which included an expulsion from Harvard for cheating, was undistinguished. "The Cambridge intellectual establishment was aghast at his candidacy," writes a John F. Kennedy biographer, Thomas Reeves.

Mr. Kennedy's record, however, shows the work of a committed, diligent legislator, and it earned the respect of those who disagreed with him as much as the loyalty of those who worked for and with him. He fought hard and persistently on a broad variety of matters, including education (the No Child Left Behind Act), the environment, gay rights, student loans and immigration reform. Indeed, he stood as a major figure in just about every major area of legislation.

As with most of us, his final days were another object lesson in the necessity of good health care. He thought it should be available to everyone, and he worked to make that a reality until the end. Moving toward that goal would be the greatest tribute his fellow legislators could pay him.

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Summer is no vacation for abused kids

By PETULA DVORAK
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

I need another one of those freezer packs, to keep the peanut-free sandwiches cold in my children's lunch bags. The racing car backpack is nasty; my older son needs a new one. And name labels! I forgot that the little one is going to need them for all the jackets he's going to misplace in preschool.

Our family's back-to-school shopping list scrolled across my brain as I drove through Southeast Washington the other day, ready to watch the teachers at Anne Beers Elementary School roll through their back-to-school routine. The cinder block hallways smelled of lemon ammonia cleaner. Inside the classrooms, the teachers were stapling butcher paper to the walls, hanging alphabet chains above the chalkboards and moving desks around in a symphony of metal-on-tile screeches.

It was all so familiar and comforting until I followed the teachers to the cafeteria for a more chilling back-to-school ritual: a review of how to spot physical, sexual and mental abuse among their students.

"When you see that bruising, when the child flinches when anyone comes near him, don't bump it up to the principal. Make the report," Kinaya Sokoya, a licensed social worker who is now executive director of the nonprofit D.C. Children's Trust Fund, urged the teachers.

This is not the back-to-school I know. I think store sales, stiff new clothes, haircuts, immunization, the smell of paste and lunchboxes. Not child abuse.

But for some of our children, summer is a time when awful things happen to them—when they go without meals, without baths, without supervised bedtimes. When schools are closed, the children's welts can heal before anyone notices. And only when they return to those shiny, linoleum-floored classrooms do they come across anyone who cares.

These kids "don't get summer vacation, a house at the beach. They don't go anywhere. They just sit in the house, being watched by the unemployed uncle who just got out of jail or the unsavory character who is around while school is out," said Jamila Larson, who spent five years as a social worker at a D.C. public school before she left last month, exhausted and emotionally drained, to run her own nonprofit agency that helps homeless children.

"They come back to school, and, finally, there is someone back in their lives who will listen to them," Larson said.

As disturbing as it was, what she and other social workers described to me made sense. When I was writing about Banita Jacks, the woman who killed her four daughters and was found living with their decaying bodies in the District of Columbia last year, I looked at local trends in child abuse reporting. I was baffled by the consistent increase in child abuse reports in the fall months, sometimes by as much as 25 percent compared with the rest of the year.

"Oh, yeah, that's back to school," Mindy Good, the spokeswoman for the District of Columbia's Child and Family Services Agency, told me.

In Montgomery County, Md., social workers are so used to the onslaught that they take their vacations before Labor Day so they're all there for the rush.

"Oh, we see a big bump every year," said Agnes Leshner, director of Child Welfare Services for Montgomery. The calls to the child abuse hotline went up 56 percent in the fall last year, compared with the summer months, Leshner said.

A diary of summer abuse can be written across a child's body, and those marks are particularly visible when teachers are evaluating students with fresh eyes.

"Through the school year, it can creep up on you, as you watch the child grow," said Carolyn Gardner at the Student Support Center, a nonprofit that helps train teachers for D.C. charter schools. "But when teachers see various bruises in stages of healing—this typically happens over holidays, over spring break, over the summer—the pattern is right in your face."

As I listened to the presentation at Beers Elementary, I was struck by the immense responsibility our teachers shoulder.

Some schools are assigned social workers, who are trained to recognize the patterns of abuse and neglect and to get a withdrawn, anguished child to trust them. A school social worker, in fact, was the only one to grab people by the lapels and holler when one of Banita Jacks' girls stopped going to school.

But for too many schools, that kind of support is a luxury. So teachers are often the only ones around to rescue a child from true horror.

I can remember crying during my older son's first parent-teacher conference. I'm sure the teacher thought I was nuts, but I was overcome with the realization that, for the first time, there was someone in my boy's life who knew lots of things about him that I didn't know.

We are truly lucky to have people in our schools who know more about our children than we do.

When a teacher with close-cropped gray hair in that cafeteria session on child abuse told the story of "a boy who looked like he hadn't had a bath in months, he was hungry, he smelled bad, he looked like he just fell out of a dumpster," I teared up again.

All week, I'd been stressing because my older son had surely forgotten how to write over the summer and my younger one would start school in nothing but hand-me-downs. But there are back-to-school problems far more jarring than mine—and far less easily solved.

The writer is a columnist for The Washington Post's Metro *section.*

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Sun! Sand! Co-payments!



By ED STEPHENS
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

Ah, age: My pals and I used to enjoy swapping yarns about our tropical exploits, but these days I'm hearing more about dermatologist visits. So instead of hearing about good times I hear about co-payments. Talk about deflating the romantic dazzle of tropical sunshine: Chronic exposure to sunlight is regarded as reckless as chain-smoking Chesterfields.

Of course, in this age of total hysteria it's hard to separate rational concern from shrieking, free-floating fear. Well, maybe it's wisdom, maybe it's not, but I long ago decided that too little sun is probably a better idea than too much, at least for me.

My attitude has changed on this. Before I hit 30 or so I soaked up all the rays I could. I once took a job solely because it allowed me to spend high noon at the beach. It seemed perfectly logical to me, but my girlfriend, The Princess, left me because of my apparent lack of ambition. But being the suntanned, crew-cut all American male suited me fine, and I scored a suitably gorgeous wife out of that epoch, so I can't complain.

So why did I switch from tan to milquetoast? The tropics made me do it.

Back when I flew helicopters from ships, quite often near the equator, I noticed that many of the old salts seemed to have little cloudy chunks in their eyeballs. I don't know nothin' about no eye-doctorin', but I know lots about sheer doggone conjecture, and it seemed to me that all that razzle-dazzle tropical rays might be putting the zap on our peepers. The ocean doesn't seem all that reflective from the shore, but it's like a polished mirror once you're in the middle of the sucker.

Strike one.

Then, off the coast of Peru, I decided to wear shorts for a day's worth of flying, and the bottom of my shorts rode up my leg since I was seated, thus exposing untanned skin to the sun, and I got a severe burn. It was a nasty deal indeed.

Strike two.

Then a friend of mine got skin cancer.

Strike three.

After settling into Saipan, as the years went by and my pals and I turned into geezers, I noticed that many of my friends were needing some doctoring due to sun exposure. I guess anyone old enough to remember disco, AMC Gremlins, and rotary-dial phones is fighting corrosion now, but hopefully it's just surface rust and it won't approach the frame. But your skin isn't like an old AMC, you can't just file out the pits, fill the wound with Bondo, then spray a round of primer on it. If you could, then I'd be the world's reigning dermatologist, because I'm one practiced touch with Bondo.

Anyway, the upshot of all of this sun stuff was that I like the idea of quitting while I'm ahead. Yeah, that's why I bailed out of gold when it was $610 an ounce (oops!), but life has a devious way of hiding the edge of the cliff. I'm hoping to appease whatever damage might be lurking in my skin by making serious amends now.

If I had an entirely office-bound life, I could probably meter myself with precise doses of sun, and have a responsible little yacht-club glow to show for the diligence. But I spend a lot of time away from offices, and being coquettish with UV rays, wanting just enough of a kiss, but not too much exposure, isn't something I'm inclined to spend a whole lot of thinking on.

You won't see this on Saipan, of course, but there's an entire industry in the higher latitudes (at least in the U.S. mainland and in England) that sells artificial tanning sessions to people; you lie down in a booth and they beam you with UV radiation of some sort. Yeah, it's true.

The aesthetics of suntans is one wildly variable gig. American culture generally regards tans as attractive. But I know folks from places in East Asia who go to great lengths to avoid any tanning effects from the sun, including using cover-ups on their arms when they're driving in the daytime. I don't think anyone on Saipan much cares one way or the other; this seems sensible to me.

Tan or no tan, I really don't care what anyone does, as long as they're not eating up my cell phone minutes by giving me the play-by-play recount of their latest dermatology operation. Jeez, enough already.

So the tropical sunshine gig is yet more evidence of my pet theory: If you have let the good times roll, you will spend the last half of your life hoping the first half doesn't catch up with you.

Letters to the Editor

'Bitter Ed'

Edwin Propst recently wrote an emotional letter to the editor that was unfairly critical of Governor Fitial's handling of CUC. In his letter, Mr. Propst complains about "better lies" regarding CUC.

Let's get our facts straight. Georgetown Consulting, an independent firm hired by the Public Utilities Commission, recently recognized the substantial progress made by CUC. First, Georgetown recognized the enormous benefit the Administration conferred on both CUC and the Commonwealth Development Authority when it successfully executed a debt-to-equity conversion agreement that wiped out millions of dollars in CUC debt. The government created a win-win situation for CUC and CDA that benefited the CNMI public in a major way. This is no lie. This is the truth. This is a major accomplishment. And this makes things much better for CUC and for Ed Propst.

Second, Georgetown Consulting also recognized the substantial progress CUC made in successfully rehabilitating our long-neglected power plants, to such an extent that we will soon no longer need the temporary Aggreko generators we have been leasing to maintain a stable power supply. This is no lie. This is true. And this is also better for CUC and Ed.

We have to remember that Ed Propst initially attacked Aggreko. If we followed Mr. Propst advice, we would still be in the dark today. Propst was wrong about Aggreko and he is wrong about the progress made by CUC. Propst complains about so-called "better lies" but to me he is just "Bitter Ed." And he shouldn't be, because CUC came a long way.

Marvin S. Pangelinan
Kagman III, Saipan

Clean water

Recently I had a great concern about Diamond Water Company delivering water to my house and because of this concerns, I contacted DEQ to make a formal complaint about the practice of patching cracked or leaking water bottles then refilling those bottles and delivering to clients.

I've complained twice about the incident and all I got were excuses and they told me that other companies use the same method of patching up the leaking bottles. Worst of all, I was told that they will no longer deliver water to my house because I complained and I've reported them to DEQ.

If Diamond Water cannot entertain good complaints about the quality of water being delivered to their clients, then they should stay out of business. You are risking the health of those people drinking your water. I understand that once water bottles are cracked or are leaking, they should not repair it for the purpose of using the same bottles for refill.

My concern here is that hard glue carries chemicals that might be harmful to our health. These chemicals will make contact with the water inside the bottle without you knowing that you're drinking probably contaminated water. To Diamond Water, your customer service needs to improve and when someone complains in the future about your water, you should take the steps to correct it and not to terminate the water service to the person complaining. We deserve good quality drinking water and we expect you to live up to your standards and don't be a blind fool!

Jack Muna
Lower Dandan, Saipan



A tribute to the lion of the Senate

Like many Americans, I owe a great debt of gratitude to the late Sen. Edward "Ted" Kennedy. I had the opportunity of meeting him and talking with him on several occasions over the years as a James Madison Fellow since he was chairman of the James Madison Foundation board, which is funded by the U. S. Congress.

One of the high points of my career and life was when Sen. Kennedy recognized me as a U. S. constitutional scholar by the U. S. Congress. His love of America and our Constitution was contagious and he definitely impacted my life as a civil rights activist. He was a congressional leader who always fought for those who were placed at an "unfair advantage" in life's challenges.

Sen. Kennedy was truly one of my mentors in the sphere of politics and the study of the U. S. Constitution. He will be missed but his legacy will certainly live on through the many people he has touched and influenced during his life time. Adios to the lion of the Senate and rest in peace.

Ambrose M. Bennett
CNMI James Madison Fellow, 1997
Kagman, Saipan

You be the judge

While Georgetown Consultants is proposing the creation of a "Loss Mitigation Task Force" we could not help but notice the ignorance and coverups this consultants engage in, such as the fact that there are well over 600 disconnected customers. Who are these consultants fooling? What these consultants fail to tell the people of the Commonwealth is that a majority of those garment industries that packed up and left overnight, leaving their unpaid power bills in the thousands, were listed as revenue losses for CUC and ultimately passed on to the consumers without our knowledge.

Concerning the fallout of CUC's unreliable power supply they fail to tell the consumers of the many sole-sourced sweetheart contracts to best friends of Gov. Benigno Fitial. Whatever happen to the sole-sourced DCM and EEI contracts? A total of $5.2 million is what the governor gave his best friend, former governor Joseph Ada of Guam.

Where are the 10 megawatts in Power Plant 2 that John Jones, owner of CISCO, supposedly boasted of achieving and turning over to CUC? Earlier it was reported that we have ourselves an expert engineer from American Samoa, Mr. Waylon Young. He was hired on a two-year contract and is paid $180,000.00 per year.

We ask these experts the following:

a.) What is the current megawatt output for engines No. 1 through 8 in Power Plant 1?

b) What is the total megawatt output achieved for both Power Plant 1 and Power Plant 2, not counting the 30 megawatts from Aggreko and Power Plant 4?

c.) How long will the cracked foundations for engines no. 5, 6, 7, and 8 last in Power Plant 1?

d.) What is the total megawatt output achieved?

Last but not least, CUC had just announced the recent hiring of a Samoan senator, Mr. Utu Abe Malae. Again, who is Georgetown Consultants fooling? CUC announced a 30 percent revenue loss yet they can afford to hire a senator to be the assistant executive director for operations. Being that CUC is cash-strapped, what were the salary and special benefits offered to the Samoan senator?

Aggreko is set to be de-linked come Sept. 12, 2009. Is Georgetown Consultants ready to accept responsibility and accountability if we are left in the dark again? You be the judge.

Gregorio Cruz Jr.
President, Taotao Tano CNMI Inc.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

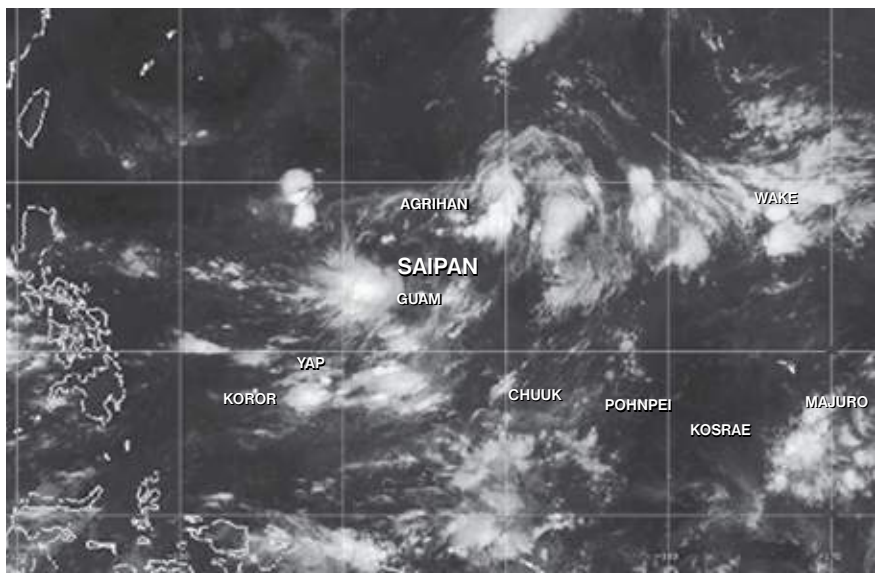
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲86	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼73
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲84	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲62	▼52
Beijing	Cloudy	▲81	▼64
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲93	▼84
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼76
London	Showers	▲70	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲90	▼64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Melbourne	Rain	▲63	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼76
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲76	▼64
Osaka	Showers	▲83	▼74
Paris	Partly Sunny	▲73	▼52
Pusan	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲88	▼67
Salem	Showers	▲82	▼55
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲78	▼58
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼66
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲83	▼74
Washington, DC	Rain	▲78	▼68

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough runs northeast from 17N130E to 20N140E then turns east to a weak tropical disturbance centered northeast of the CNMI at 20N150E to 19N157E. Strong upper-level divergence is combining with low-level convergent winds to enhance widespread showers and isolated thunderstorms just west of the Marianas in an area bounded by 15N145E to 12N143E to 15N140E to 18N142E then back to 15N145E. Also, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found northeast of the CNMI within 100 miles of a line from 18N147E to 19N153E to 18N155E to 15N155E to 13N156E and within 100 miles of 20N138E. Favorable upper-level divergent winds combined with low-level convergence are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Wake Island between 15N and 20N from 168E to 171E and within 100 miles of a line from 19N159E to 16N160E to 16N162E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found well south of Chuuk, south of 2N from 146E to 155E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers near Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 7N172E to 2N172E and between 6N and 9N east of 175E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:23 AM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
8:01 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
3:53 PM Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
8:08 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:03 PM	
Saturday	1:54 PM	12:24 AM
Sunday	2:43 PM	1:15 AM
Monday	3:29 PM	2:07 AM
Tuesday	4:11 PM	2:59 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

C0941	5:30am	8:05am	Daily
NW99	6:05am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily
C0943	5:25pm	8:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

C0942	9:25am	1:55pm	Daily
NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:35pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily
C0944	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ716/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Boy Scouts 2-day camp begins today

Some 100 kids are expected to join the two-day Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts camp that starts today in Paupau Beach.

Calistro I. Reyes, island director of the CNMI Boy Scouting Program, said the children would be setting up tents around 12pm.


Reyes

The scouts will have games and other activities tomorrow where they will showcase their outdoor skills.

"We encourage parents to support their kids and make the camping successful and worthwhile," Reyes said.

The public is invited to come to the event and give their support.

"Parents should also be active involved," Reyes said.

The Aloha Council of the Boy Scouts of America appointed Reyes last month as the island director for the CNMI effective July 20.

Reyes was the scout coordinator for the CNMI scouting program, which was under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs from 1977 to 1996.

Reyes said he wants to establish a partnership between the boy scouting program and the Public School system and the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

"They have the resources and we would like to start from them," he said. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

Pinoy comics to stage show on Saipan

Two of the most visible movie and television comedians in the Philippines are set to stage a first-of-a-kind show on Saipan next month.

The show, called "Kambal Sa Tawa," will present Vice Ganda and Ogie Diaz.

Producer Digital Motion said tickets are now available for the Sept. 19 show that will be held at the Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

Ticket outlets are at Shirley Restaurant in Susupe only and at the Digital Motion's office on the third floor of Marianas Business Plaza.

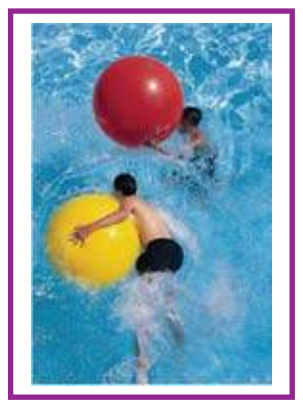
General admission is $15 and $30 for VIP.

Major sponsors include IT&E, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Bud Light and Magic 100FM. Part of the proceeds will benefit the Bantay Bata Foundation.

Digital Motion production manager Edwin Sta. Theresa said they have been preparing this for the past two months in coordination with Hapi Gabriel.

Sta. Theresa said this will be the first time for Philippine standup comedians to come to Saipan. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***





Fun!

Fun!

Fun!



Fun!

Fun!

Fun!

Back-to-School
Summer Bash
at
Palms Resort Saipan

Swim all day and enjoy a variety of food & ice cold drinks!

Live Entertainment, Beach & Pool Activities plus much more...

Saturday, August 29, 2009
9:00 am ~ 6:00 pm
Isa Bar Poolside

Everyone is invited!!!

Live Entertainment by
PARKER YOBEI
and Live DJ!



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on PauPau Beach, Saipan
Micronesia

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Redeem your Lucky 7 Passport at your favorite Shell station today and receive a FREE 3-pack of Anchor Milk (250 ml) in Reduced Fat and a combination of either Chocolate, Strawberry or Vanilla. Offer good while supplies last. Valid only on Saipan.

Redeem your Lucky 7 Passport today and Anchor a pack of milk into your child's lunch box!

made to move

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OCEANS magazine finds adventure in the CNMI

Flanked by the Pacific Ocean on the east and the Philippine Sea on the west, the Northern Marianas string of islands will show off the best of its sea and shore attractions for an upcoming feature by *OCEANS* magazine.

Editor, writer and stylist Kazuya Misawa and photographer Ryoichi Sato of Japan-based *OCEANS* visited the islands last week to follow the adventurous travel of father and son models on the tropical islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

OCEANS has a circulation of 70,000 and targets men in their 30s and 40s. A six-page feature is anticipated to be released in their Sept. 24, 2009, issue at an estimated ad value of $100,000.

While on Saipan, the family team took a guided hike to Forbidden Island, while the media crew later had dinner at Oleai Beach Bar & Grill. They also enjoyed a barbecue lunch of their own catch after trolling and bottom-fishing. Photography was also taken of horseback riding, Price-Costco, and a camping scene at Wing Beach.

The media team spend two full days on Rota, renowned for its natural beauty and the friendliness of it residents. Staying at the quaint Rota Coconut Village within sight and sound of the rolling surf, they also dived at the Rota Hole and the sunken vessel *Shoun Maru*. Their first evening was spent stargazing, before they began a new day of island tours including the famous aquamarine Rota Swimming Hole, Chugai Pictograph Site where cave drawings by ancient indigenous Chamorros are preserved, and Rota Latte Stone Quarry, where limestone monoliths were excavated by ancient Chamorros for use as building support structures. Other stops included I'Chenchon Bird Sanctuary, Gagani Fruit Farm, Honey Garden, Rota Zoo, and Song Song Village lookout.

On the final day of adventure, the group toured Tinian on rented scooters and snorkeled in waters frequented by sea turtles. Barbecue lunch was enjoyed at Taga Beach, where the Chamorro dish "*kadun pika,*"—chicken seasoned with soy sauce, black pepper, and Tinian's small but potent hot pepper "*donni sali*,"—was also sampled.

"Marianas Visitors Authority is very pleased have supported *OCEANS* magazine on this feature for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "The more media outlets visiting our islands that we can entice by providing logistical support, the more exposure and value the Northern Marianas receives for our modest investment."

The familiarization tour was also supported by Mariana Resort & Spa, Rota Coconut Village, Saipan Sea Ventures, Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, Gagani Fruit Farm, Rota Zoo, and Blue Palms Dive Service Rota. ***(MVA)***



OCEANS photographer Ryoichi Sato, left, and editor/writer/stylist Kazuya Misawa capture the crystal clear waters of the Swimming Hole on Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, on Aug. 20, 2009. Rota and the islands of Saipan, and Tinian will be featured in the Sept. 24, 2009, edition of the Japan-based magazine.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LISS class instructors Christine Sakaziro, left, and Rose Smith, right, together with the Humanitarian Class, display the school supplies donated by PIC Saipan. Seated is Michael Park, president of the LISS Humanitarian Class. At right is Vicky Benavente, representing PIC Saipan.

Humanitarian class aims for 500 sets of school supplies

The Ladera International School of Saipan's Humanitarian Class is working toward giving away 500 sets of school supplies to children.

The Pacific Islands Club Saipan recently assisted the class with a donation of supplies such as pencils, pens, and writing tablets.

LISS teacher Rose Smith said: "We are grateful for the school supplies which we will donate to the Koblerville Elementary School. Our goal is to put together 500 sets of school supplies for the kids in several schools."

The president of the Humanitarian Class project, Michael Park, said: "We know there are some kids who cannot afford to buy things like pencils, or glue and rulers. So, we decided to work toward putting together supplies to help these kids."

PIC Saipan said that, as an active community member, it always seeks ways to enhance and support the lives of all island residents. ***(PR)***

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

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for 2009-2010 school year

live to learn, live to love, live to give

sda school

elementary

begins August 13, 2009

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Engaging Creative Curriculum

Excellent Student / Teacher ratio



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The elementary school is in San Antonio across from the Labor and Immigration office. P.O. Box 501063 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 670.234.7326 Fax: 670.235.7326 saipansdaschool@gmail.com
Business hours 7:15 am - 4:30 pm (mon-thurs) 7:15 am - 1:00 pm (fri)

child development center

The SDA Child Development Center is open from 7am until 5pm
Summer Session June 1st, 2009 through August 7th, 2009
School Session August 17th, 2009 through May 27th, 2010
Summer Session June 1st, 2010 through August 6th, 2010





Our center accepts children age 18 months through Pre-Kindergarten. We have three classrooms Toddler, Preschool, and Prekinder. We are located behind Dolphin Wholesale in San Jose.



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Part Time sessions are from 8:00 am - 12 noon or up to 5 hours a day.

For more information call 670.235.3204 or email us at sdachilddevcenter@gmail.com.

Mad Hatter is year's theme for Club 200

The NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross officially announced yesterday the launching of its 21st annual Club 200 fundraising dinner and raffle.

This year's event will be held on Oct. 24, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"We've selected a 'Mad Hatter' theme so that everyone can come dressed up wearing a fun creative hat," said Mili Saiki, co-chair of this year's event. "We'll have a hat contest as well as an encore performance by legendary Hawaiian entertainer Willie K and his Band," said Saiki.

The raffle contest will feature a grand prize of $15,000 and first prize of $10,000 cash, along with many great prizes like plane tickets, vacation packages and much more.

Tickets are $100 per person and are now available from Red Cross ticket sellers.

For more information on the event or how to get involved with the NMI Chapter, call 234-3459.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization—not a government agency—and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the people of the CNMI to perform its mission. For more information, visit www.nmi.redcross.org. ***(PR)***

ON THE NET
www.nmi.redcross.org

9 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has raised the red flag on nine sites on Saipan and advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, S. Puerto Rico Dump, Am. Memorial Park, Micro Beach, Hafa Adai Beach Hotel, Garapan Fishing Dock, Sugar Dock and San Antonio Lift Station on Saipan contained excessive concentrations of enterococci that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

Samples from Tinian did not exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. Therefore, DEQ assigns all of the sampled beach sites a green flag.

Rota and Managaha beach areas were not sampled this week. DEQ analyzes samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 50 locations on Saipan, 10 on Tinian, 12 on Rota and a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Managaha.

Marine Water Quality Reports are also provided at www.deq.gov.mp/section.aspx?secID=4 and http://www.cnmicoralreef.net/wq/beachcloseweeklyresults.htm. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Guam wastewater treatment plant to undergo upgrades

PEARL HARBOR—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific awarded Core Tech International Corporation, of Barrigada, Guam, a $13.9 million, firm-fixed price, contract on Aug. 25 for upgrades to the wastewater collection system on Naval Base Guam.

The work to be performed is for the design and construction to replace and rehabilitate sewer lift stations and sewer pipelines in the collection system of the Apra Harbor Wastewater Treatment Plant.

"The continued effective and reliable treatment of waste water is a cornerstone of our environmental stewardship on Guam, and upgrading the Apra Harbor Wastewater Treatment Plant will ensure that our systems continue to operate efficiently to support Naval Base Guam now and into the future," said NAVFAC Marianas Commanding Officer and Joint Region Marianas Regional Engineer Capt. Peter Lynch.

Antiquated sewage lift stations will be replaced with new facilities that provide increased capacity and system reliability, and pump station controls and emergency generators will be placed in structures hardened for typhoons. Sustainable design principles will be integrated into the design, development, and construction of the utility plant building.

"Strong and dependable infrastructure is vital to sustaining efficient operations on any military installation. This is especially important on an island with precious natural resources that we are dedicated to preserve," added Lynch.

Work is expected to be completed by September 2011. The exact amount of the contract award is $13,892,789, and it was competitively procured via the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website with six proposals received. ***(PR)***

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2X4X18 - $5.00	2X4X18 - $8.80
2X4X20 - $6.10	2X4X20 - $9.60
2X6X12 - $6.70	2X6X12 - $10.00
2X6X14 - $7.60	2X6X14 - $11.00
2X6X16 - $8.90	2X6X16 - $13.00
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R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	~~10,799~~	8,599
R09-010F	2006	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	59360	SILVER	ADC-711	~~11,999~~	9,999
U09-055T	2006	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	22466	RED	ACE-346	9,999	
N/A	2007	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	20421	WHITE	ADW-292	12,399	
N/A	2007	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	20083	SILVER	ADW-312	12,399	
N/A	2007	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	18092	RED	ACH-404	12,399	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	29173	WHITE	ACD-727	11,499	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	26200	WHITE	ACD-687	11,499	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	25037	BLUE	ACG-450	11,499	
TOYOTA SUVS								
N/A	2006	RAV4 4X4 LTD	AUTO	58313	SILVER	ACE-760	13,399	
GM CARS								
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	~~10,999~~	7,499
OTHER CARS & TRUCKS								
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	~~10,999~~	6,999
U09-045T	2003	VOLKSWAGEN NEW BEETLE 2DR	AUTO	48440	GREEN	ABX-844	~~6,999~~	5,999
GM VAN								
R09-009F	2003	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	142674	WHITE	BUS-1079	5,999	
R09-013F	2005	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	77384	WHITE	BUS-1200	7,999	
N/A	2007	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	55365	WHITE	BUS-1223	18,399	

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Island Snapshots



BOOK LAUNCHING

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Young and old attend the launching of the 730-page book titled *Directory of Traditional Healers and Medicinal Plants in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,* at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Wednesday. The Inetnon Amot Natibu (Native Medicine Association) organized the book launch.



WIA PRESENTATION

NMC

Students of the Northern Marianas College listen to a presentation from Workforce Investment Agency case manager Frances Torres, standing in background. Torres outlined the services and training opportunities available to the students, including job hunting assistance and career counseling. Torres also explained how WIA assists students who are struggling financially pursue a college education while gaining work experience and job skills through job opportunities provided by the program.



TEXTER'S CHOICE WINNER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E Texter's Choice raffle winner, Amamcia Ocampo, poses with IT&E Marketing Associate, Brad Ruszala, and her new UT Starcom Blitz on Tuesday at IT&E Chalan Laulau. Ocampo was one of the voters who cast their text ballot for Alfred Masangcay's truck in Power 99's Real Deal On Wheelz car show. After receiving nearly 700 votes, Masangcay walked away with the IT&E Texter's Choice award and a brand new Motorola MOTOROKR Z6.

LIFESAVERS

Police Officer Emery Kaipat hands a certificate of appreciation to Fan Chun Li, an employee of Big Boyz Jet Ski Co., who saved the life of a Chinese female from drowning at Sugar Regional Park.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Police Officer Emery Kaipat congratulates Eric Lister for saving the life of Jerry Diaz outside the Sugar Dock channel. Lister and Diaz were themselves rescued by five passing fishermen aboard a boat.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 7th birthday to our bundle of joy, Hayley and Moira Iglecias! With love, from Marita, Ryan, Mom, Dad and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Conveniently located on Lower Navy Hill, 5-minute walk to Commonwealth Health Center. Newly renovated building with 3-bedroom 2 bathrooms. EPA approved solar water heaters. Free Wi-Fi. Rooftop deck facility for BBQ or Party. Air-condition in all bedrooms.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Kristin Jewel P. Dela Cruz, who is celebrating her third birthday today, Aug. 28! We love you so much! Greetings come from Papa, Mama, Ate and Bunso.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Manglona-Hocog luncheon fundraiser reset

The Manglona-Hocog "United Rota Mas Mauleg Team" wishes to inform all friends and families regarding the reschedule of the luncheon fundraising on Aug. 28, 2009, at Aqua Resort Club to Sept. 11, 2009, same time and place.

The Manglona-Hocog family would like to extend their sincere apology to those who have purchased their ticket and we hope to see you on Sept. 11, 2009.

For inquiry call Angel S. Hocog at 483-4164**.** ***(PR)***



SAIPAN'S PRIDE CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Capt. Clarence Tenorio, left, receives awards from Col. Gary Kamauoha in recognition of his one-year mobilization with the United States Army Reserve's 1101st Garrison Support Unit, Detachment 24 in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Chamber sets September meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's next general membership meeting will be held at The Palms Resort next Wednesday, Sept. 2. Speaking at the meeting will be U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), who will provide an update on his activities in Washington, D.C., as well as the status of federalization. Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for public. ***(SCC)***

Puengin Inetnon today

Puengin Inetnon will be held again today, Aug. 28, 2009, at the Kagman Community Center's parking lot. Puengin Inetnon is Kagman's Friday Night Market that will take place every government payday. It will begin at 4:30pm and end at 10pm.

There will be vendors selling food, drinks, snacks, clothing, and crafts. The Library's Bookmobile will also be there. Interested vendors can call the Kagman Post Office at 256-POST for applications. ***(PR)***

Kagman Saturday Flea Market

Kagman's Saturday Flea Market will be on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009, at the Kagman Community Center's parking lot. It will be held every government payday Saturday. You may only sell your used items. Tents will be provided. Interested sellers can call the Kagman Post Office at 256-POST for more info. ***(PR)***

Marianas High School's opening activities

Urgent: All freshmen students *must* obtain a blue health card from Public Health, showing the student has all of his/ her immunizations. Failure to submit this health card may result in the student being suspended from school. Blue cards may be submitted to the Registrar's Office, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm.

Students may pick their class schedules on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 3-4, from 8am to 3: 30pm in the Counseling Office. Returning students must return all textbooks from last school year.

The first day of classes for all students is Tuesday, Sept. 8. Homeroom will begin at 8am sharp. Please arrive early to avoid being tardy for the first day of school. Students will be released at 3pm.

If there are any questions regarding school opening, call Marianas High School 237-3206. ***(PR)***

MAFEA meeting set

The Marianas Association of Filipino Engineers and Architects will have an officers' and board of directors' meeting on Sunday Aug. 30, 2009, at 1pm, at the home of Geoff Melchor in As Perdido.

For more details contact: Hector Sevilla at 287-7095, Jun Liberato at 789-4127, or Lito Marquez at 286-6337. ***(PR)***

VFW thanks soldiers' supporters

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Saipan Post 3457 extends its appreciation to the families, friends and the community who took time to greet our returning soldiers of Echo Company, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry from their 2nd deployment.

"Your untiring efforts are in keeping with our tradition of respect, commitment and admiration for our sons and daughters serving our great nation to keep our country free. Welcome home heroes and Go for Broke! Hoorah!" VFW said. ***(PR)***





Mount Carmel School opens its doors for SY 09-10

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the difficulties posed by the slumping economy, the effects of which has not spared Mount Carmel School, it still welcomed the school year 2009-2010 with 378 students on Aug. 6, 2009.

The school began classes with a Mass of the Holy Spirit presided by Bishop Tomas A. Camacho and con-celebrated by Fr. Ryan Jimenez, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools.


DelaCruz

The total enrollment this year reached 378 (all ethnicities), including 86 foreign students—a decline of approximately 9 percent, mainly due to economic reasons and other factors.

Mount Carmel president Margaret DelaCruz said a lot of parents could not afford the tuition. This is coupled with the anticipated onset of federalization of the CNMI.

"Some families have moved to the U.S. mainland and some parents went back with their children to their home countries," DelaCruz said.

Mount Carmel School currently charges $2,760 in tuition for grades 1 to 6 at; $2,990 for grades 7 and 8, and $3,530.50 for grades 9 to 12.

Some 100 new students were also accepted this year in different levels, including 25 first graders. About 18 of them came from Sr. Remedios Development Center.

Despite this decrease in enrollment, Mount Carmel promises to continue improving its basic goal of providing quality education to students through values formation.

Mount Carmel School is the only Catholic school on island in the past 57 years.

Since its inception in 1952, the school has been operated by different religious congregation under a principal-vice principal model.

In 1995, the school took a leap into the 21st century of school management by becoming incorporated, allowing the school to form a board of directors, receive tax-exempt and non-profit status and shift into an innovative president-principal model.

Sr. Angela Perez RSM was invited by Bishop Camacho to serve as president from 1993-1996.

Following Sr. Angela's tenure, Sr. Kathleen Sarmiento RSM served as it second president from 1996 to December 2000.

In January 2000, the school's presidency passed on to Margaret DelaCruz, the first layperson to hold the position. She would be completing her 10th year as president in January 2010.


NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
It's back to school for these young students at Mount Carmel School, which opened regular classes on Aug. 6.

In an interview, DelaCruz shared that Mount Carmel is currently developing a five-year strategic long-range plan spearheaded by the school board.

She said this planning gives educators and boards a means of ensuring and shaping the future of the school by looking at long-term goals and the means to achieve them.

Part of this includes the construction of a new gymnasium. The lack of funding is a major problem but they will continue to find ways on how to realize such an important project, DelaCruz said.

The school will also continue to seek resources to continue its financial aid program. Continuing this will allow students who have left the school due to financial difficulties the opportunity to return to Mount Carmel.

DelaCruz said there is about $20,000 available for financial aid this school year. She said half of this amount was contributed by a generous benefactor in the United States.

"All of us here at Mount Carmel School strive to deliver the quality Catholic education that our students rightfully deserve. And the school is forever grateful for the unconditional support that school has and continue to receive from Bishop Tomas Camacho and the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Fr. Ryan Jimenez," she said.

Mount Carmel's newest program for this school year is the PSAT/SAT Boot Camp, which was initiated by two members of the school board. This is a program that helps students improve their PSAT and SAT scores by making them better understand how the test works.

This program helps participants analyze and explain how the test is designed and scored; learn and utilize effective test-taking strategies; review and refresh content knowledge in English and Math; and ease test-taking anxiety and increase comfort and confidence by taking practice tests.

The program started on Aug. 17 and will conclude on Oct. 7. Students meet for four hours a week. Since last week, the students have been joining the daily 6pm-7pm boot camp and at 10am-12pm on Saturdays.

The PSAT/SAT test will be held in October.

"The beauty and good thing about this program is that the idea came from two of our board members and the two instructors are our alumni," DelaCruz said.

This, she said, adds to the pride and glory of the school.

Mount Carmel also promises to continue with its regular activities such as the Theater Club, Mock Trial, sports and other programs.



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Business

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Agency that insures bank deposits may need help

NEW YORK (AP)—The government agency that guarantees you won't lose your money in a bank failure may need a lifeline of its own. The coffers of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. have been so depleted by the epidemic of collapsing financial institutions that analysts warn it could sink into the red by the end of this year. That has happened only once before—during the savings-and-loan crisis of the early 1990s, when the FDIC was forced to borrow $15 billion from the Treasury and repay it later with interest. On Thursday, the agency reveals how much is left in its reserves. FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair may also use the quarterly briefing to say how the agency plans to shore up its accounts.

Six companies recall blinds, shades after deaths

WASHINGTON (AP)—Six companies are recalling millions of window blinds and shades, following the deaths of three children who got caught in cords that help the coverings move up and down. The recalls, announced Wednesday by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, involve some big-name companies, including Pottery Barn Kids and IKEA as well as smaller companies that sold their window covers at retailers such as Target. No deaths were associated with the blinds and shades from Pottery Barn Kids and IKEA, but CPSC says there have been six reports of children becoming entangled in the inner cord of the Pottery Barn Kids shades.

Stocks eke out small gains, Dow higher for 7th day

NEW YORK (AP)—The stock market is running out of reasons to go higher. After rocking between gains and losses Wednesday, the Dow Jones industrials managed to rise for a seventh straight day, marking another high for the year. But there was hardly any excitement. The Dow rose just 4 points, while other major indexes gained less than 1 point despite positive reports on home sales and factory orders. An increasingly cautious mood has gripped the market in recent days, following a period of fervid buying this spring and summer that sent stocks up more than 45 percent since early March. While economic data is showing modest improvement, investors are worried stocks may have overshot the economy's recovery.

Sale of big-ticket items soar, bolstering economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Consumers and businesses went on a big-ticket spending spree in July, sending home, car and equipment sales soaring by the largest amount in years.

The sales, detailed in two government reports Wednesday, confirmed a subtle but marked shift in confidence about the economy. New home sales jumped almost 10 percent from June, while orders for long-lasting goods like appliances, planes and computers rose nearly 5 percent in July, the third increase in the past four months.

"It looks like we've hit bottom and we're now slowly trying to dig our way out," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight.

Still, it remains unclear whether the growth can be sustained. Though the increases in housing sales and manufacturing last month were dramatic, they came from extraordinarily low levels and were fueled by temporary government programs like Cash for Clunkers and tax credits for home sales.

Most economists now agree the recession that began in December 2007 has ended or is ending. Some say the economy is poised to grow strongly in the July-September quarter, but will probably show weaker growth after government stimulus spending tapers off.

Sales of new homes surged to a seasonally adjusted pace of 433,000 in July from 395,000 in June, the Commerce Department said, providing another sign the housing market is bouncing back from the historic bottom reached early this year. Driven by falling prices, the fourth-straight monthly increase was greater than expected.

Cash for Clunkers under budget with 690,000 sales

WASHINGTON (AP)—The popular Cash for Clunkers program generated nearly 700,000 new car sales during the past month, giving the U.S. auto industry a badly needed jolt of activity during the deepest decline in auto sales in two decades.

The government, releasing final data on the car incentives, said Wednesday that dealers submitted 690,114 sales totaling $2.88 billion, bringing the program to a close under its $3 billion budget. Japanese auto manufacturers led American companies in new car sales through the program, which ended late Monday.

Many dealers are still waiting to be repaid for the Cash for Clunkers incentives they gave car buyers and were allowed to submit paperwork seeking reimbursement until late Tuesday.

Despite the summertime frenzy at dealerships, analysts said the growth in auto sales may be short-lived. Sales in July rose to 11.2 million when converted to an annual rate, the first month in 2009 in which sales had risen above the 10 million level. A drop in consumer confidence late last year sent sales plunging to depths not seen since the early 1980s, prompting lawmakers to create the program.

Jeremy Anwyl, CEO of the auto Web site Edmunds.com, said dealers and automakers clearly gained from the big boost in sales. But while the incentives helped consumers, average prices for vehicles went up as buyers less concerned about prices rushed to take advantage of the rebates.

FDA reports health problems with stolen insulin

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers to avoid certain vials of insulin made by Novo Nordisk that were stolen earlier this year and may not be safe for use.

The agency said Wednesday that the vials may not have been stored properly and could be dangerous to consumers. The FDA has received three reports of patients who suffered unsafe blood sugar levels after using the products.

The FDA issued an alert in June after three lots of Novo Nordisk's Levemir insulin were stolen during shipment through Johnston County, N.C. Regulators say only about 2 percent of the 129,000 vials have been returned.

Regulators advised patients not to use Levemir insulin from lots: XZF0036, XZF0037, XZF0038.

"Replace it with a vial of Levemir from another lot," the agency said in a statement. "If you must switch to another brand of insulin for any reason, first contact your health care provider because another insulin product may require adjustments in dosing."

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MEAL PROGRAM
ANNOUNCEMENT OF BENEFITS
SY 2009-2010

The School Breakfast and Lunch Meal Program provide healthy, nutritious meals with all the food components to make a complete meal. A nominal meal of $.50 per breakfast and $.75 pre lunch will be charged at schools participating in the School Meal Program for meals when school reconvenes. This a reduced price made available through federal grants.

Children from families that are below or meet federal guidelines are eligible for one free breakfast meal one free lunch meal everyday as the school is in session. An example of income eligibility using the federal free meal income table: A household with two children and two adults are considered a household of four persons and thus will qualify if combined monthly income is $2,794.00 or less.

Applications to receive free meals are available at the schools and the PSS Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) office located on Saipan: 3rd floor, Retirement Building, Capitol Hill; on Tinian: Tinian Elementary School, and Rota: Rota Jr. High School. Parents should fill out an application, provide supporting documents and return it to PSS FNS office or at the school office where their child/children attends if the parents think they may qualify and wishes for their child/children to receive free meals. Application cannot be approved unless a complete application and all supporting documents are submitted. Applications must be submitted every school year regardless if your child/children was/were receiving free meals in the previous years. **Children who received free meals last year have 30 days from the first day of school to submit applications and are eligible for free meals during this 30 day grace period.**

Families whose children are currently receiving assistance from the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) will qualify for the School Meals Program but still need to complete an application yearly. However, please be informed that the PSS – FNS conducts a direct certification with the NAP to ensure your children are in the program. If not all children are receiving food stamp, you must provide income sources (2 recent check stubs, SSI, retirement pension, etc). Completed applications will be processed within ten working days upon receipt. The PSS FNS office will notify you of your application approval or denial. The food services management company vendors will be provided a confidential list of students qualified for free meals.

Applications may be verified of reviewed at any time during the school year. Households receiving free meal benefits must notify PSS FNS office during the school year of any decrease in household size and/or any increase in income over $50 per month or termination of NAP benefits. **Households may apply for free meal benefits any time during the school year as circumstances change such as in cases of unemployment.**

In certain cases, foster children are eligible for free meals regardless of household income. If you have such children living with you and you wish to apply for such meals for them, please contact the PSS FNS office.

All applicants who are denied benefits have the right to request a conference to discuss the situation, present information and obtain an explanation of the submitted application or a decision rendered. Applicants may also appeal this decisions by contacting the PSS FNS office.

The PSS FNS office can be reached on Saipan: 237-3033/3060/3055/3088 or fax 664-3717, Tinian: 237-4106/4105 or fax 433-0455, Rota: 237-4046/4047 or fax 532-4020. Please feel free to call us if you would like to get more information on the free meal program.

"In the operation of child feeding program, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Peter James Le'au
Acting Associate Commissioner
for Administrative Services

Live Longer. Live Healthier.

Diabetes & Tobacco; A Harmful Combination



- Tobacco use raises blood sugar levels and makes it harder to control
- You're more likely to have high blood pressure, a heart attack or stroke
- Tobacco smoking can damage your eyesight which may lead to blindness
- Smoking or Chewing tobacco increases gum disease and loss of teeth





Community Guidance Center
DPH

Diabetes and Tobacco Don't Mix

To learn more, contact the Division of Public Health
Diabetes Program at 664-4030/1 or
CNMI Tobacco Control Program at 323-6584

Nation

A torch extinguished: Ted Kennedy dead at 77

HYANNIS PORT, Mass. (AP)—The greatest heights eluded Ted Kennedy over a lifetime of achievement and pain. No presidency. No universal health care, chief among his causes.

Instead, Kennedy built his Washington monument stone by stone, his imprint distinct on the Senate's most important works over nearly half a century. He toiled across the Potomac River from the graveyard of his fallen brothers.

The last of the Kennedys who fascinated the nation with their ambition, style, idealism, tragedies—and sometimes sheer recklessness—Edward Moore Kennedy died late Tuesday night at 77. A black shroud and vase of white roses sat Wednesday on his Senate desk, which John Kennedy had used before him.


Kennedy

So dropped the final curtain on "Camelot," the already distant era of the Kennedy dynasty.

■■■

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy will lie in repose Thursday and Friday at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston, followed by his funeral Saturday at a city church and burial later that day near his slain brothers at Arlington National Cemetery.

Kennedy's family plans to travel by motorcade with his body from their compound on Cape Cod, Mass., to the library in Boston on Thursday. The facility will be open to the public for certain periods on both days while Kennedy lies in repose. The Kennedys have planned a private memorial service at the library for Friday night, according to a schedule of events released by Kennedy's Senate office.

■■■

The Massachusetts senator's extended political family of fellow Democrats and rival Republicans, steeled for his death since his brain-tumor diagnosis a year ago yet still jarred by it, joined in mourning. Kennedy was the Senate's dominant liberal and one of its legendary dealmakers.

Just last year he jumped into a fractious Democratic presidential nomination fight to side with Barack Obama, giving the Illinois senator a boost that had the air of a family anointment.

ACROSS THE NATION

Obama says 'thank you and goodbye' to Kennedy

CHILMARK, Massachusetts (AP)—Edward M. Kennedy was much more than just former Senate colleague and influential legislator to Barack Obama, evident in the president's personal, mournful tribute on Wednesday. Obama lauded the Massachusetts senator's tireless work for legislation that reshaped the lives of millions of Americans — "including myself," America's first black president added in a poignant hint of affection. Also clearly not forgotten as a grieving president took a break from his summer vacation on Martha's Vineyard to mark Kennedy's death from brain cancer late Tuesday night: the great political debt Obama owes Kennedy. "His fight has given us the opportunity we were denied when his brothers John and Robert were taken from us: the blessing of time to say thank you — and goodbye," Obama said.

SC gov will stay after lt. gov asks him to quit

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford rebuffed his lieutenant governor's call to resign Wednesday, two months after he admitted an affair, saying he will not be "railroaded" out of office and plans to finish his term. Sanford returned from a nearly weeklong disappearance in June to acknowledge the affair with an Argentine woman, a revelation that led to questions about the legality of his travel on state, private and commercial planes. At a news conference hours after Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer called for him to step down, Sanford said the people of South Carolina want to move past the scandals.

Pearl Harbor, Hickam to become a joint base

HONOLULU (AP)—Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base next door are due to become a single installation next year as the military strives to become more efficient. The military said Wednesday that Pentagon, Navy and Air Force officials recently signed an agreement finalizing the long-planned move. The transition to Pearl Harbor-Hickam is due to begin in January. By October 2010, the bases will be united. The bases are among 26 installations across the country that are being combined into 12 joint bases. They were singled out for consolidation in 2005 during the military's Base Realignment and Closure process.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Division of Labor
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992

PUBLIC NOTICE TO APPEAR FOR INVESTIGATION

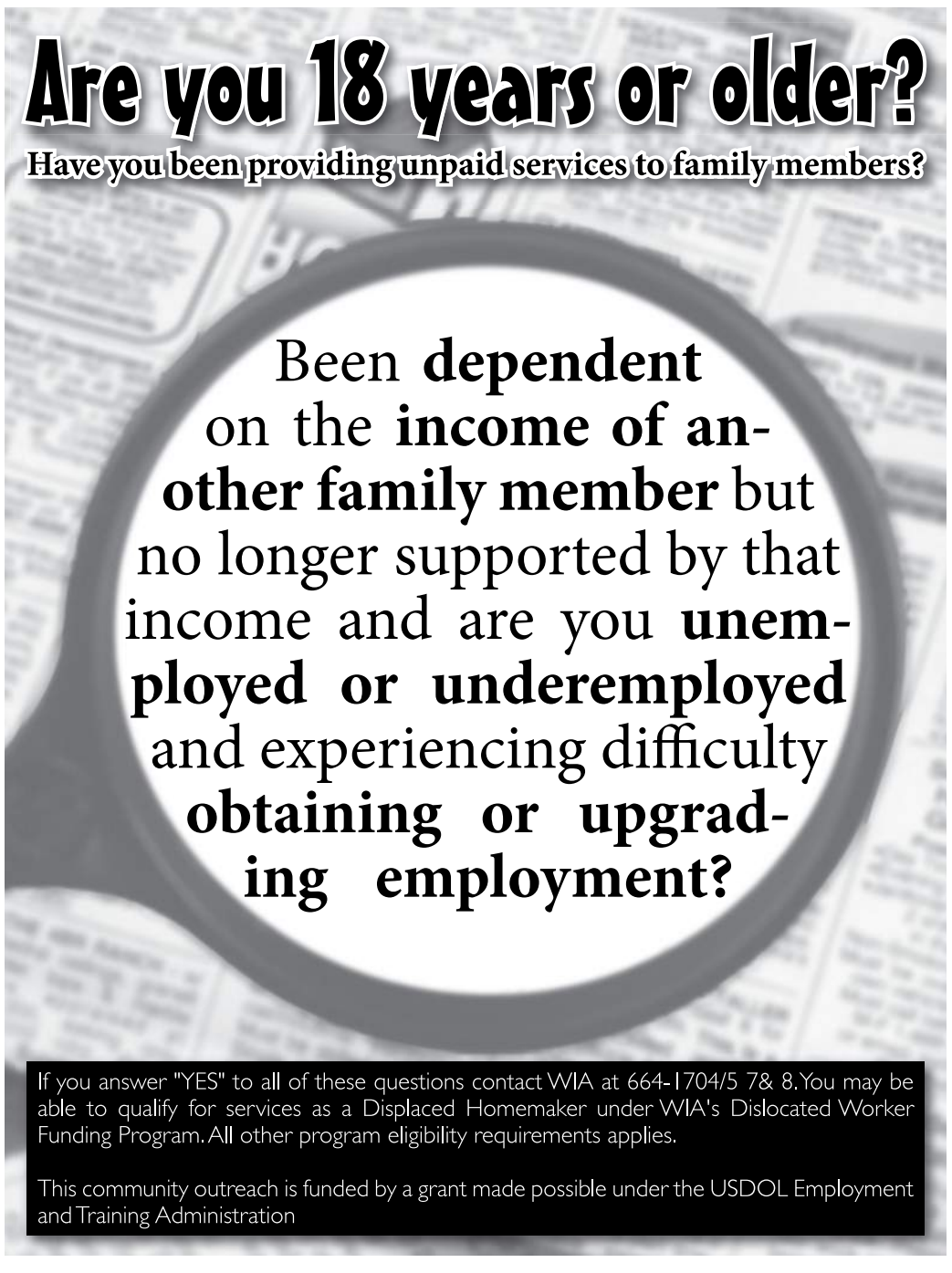
The Non-resident worker and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Enforcement Section, 2nd Floor, Afetnas Building, San Antonio, Saipan. This notice will serve as "Proof of Service for the notice to appear for investigation". For information, please contact Investigator, Jeffrey T. Camacho at 236-0900 ext. 275.

Employee	Employer	Case Number	Date/Time
Meprawat, Siriwan	Vitaliano, Moses K.	CAC#09-237-07	09/09/2009 10AM

Failure to appear at your scheduled investigation shall be grounds for default and may result in the referral of affected worker to the Division of Immigration for their action and sanction against the employer

Dated this 17th day of August 2009.

Jeffrey T. Camacho



NOTIFICATION OF WIA DISLOCATED WORKER FUNDING PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

CATEGORY A: GENERAL DISLOCATED WORKERS. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

CATEGORY B: PLANT CLOSURE. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, a plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility will close within 180 days; or
3. For purposes of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility will close.

CATEGORY C: SELF-EMPLOYED or UNEMPLOYED. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self-employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT WIA AT 664-1704;1707; 1708 OR 1757 or email us at gov.wia@pticom.com. All other program eligibility applies.

This community outreach is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.

TOYS 20% - 50% OFF (SELECTED ONLY)

Sara Market II

CAPITOL HILL • 322-9596

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS 10% - 25% OFF (SELECTED ONLY)

End of August Special

AUGUST 28 TO SEPTEMBER 9, 2009 • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

SHOP & LEAVE TOTALLY COMPLETE

FOOD STAMPS WELCOME • FRIENDLY SERVICE • EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

SELECTED ITEMS ARE LIMITED PER CUSTOMER • PRICES CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Leg Quarter 22 LBS. $15.99 33 LBS. LIMIT 1 $22.99

Whole Chicken LIMIT 1 CASE $33.99

Young Spare Ribs 10 LBS. $15.99

Pork Spareribs BBQ Adobo Cut 20 LBS. $14.99

Beef Back Spare Ribs 20 LBS. $19.99

Pork Riblets 10 LBS. $11.99

Turkey Tail 20 lbs. $15.99

Mackerel PACIFIC 22.4 LBS. $20.99 PIKE 22.07 LBS. $23.99

Chorizos 4 lbs. 64 oz. $24.99

SEOK SU Dynamic Fresh 500ml. x 20 $5.99

Jasmine Lotus Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1 SACK) $24.99

Diamond G Calrose Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) $33.99

Ichiban Limit 1 CASE $8.99

Tasters Choice Pouch 8 oz. $6.99

FROZEN MEAT • SEAFOOD • PRODUCE • GROCERIES

Gusto Ham 10 lbs. $15.99

Bar-S Ham 10 lbs. $16.99

Miller Sausage 5 lbs. $14.95

Chamorro Sausage Reg/Hot 1 lb. $4.49

Bar-S Bacon 1 lb. $2.49

Bar-S Hotdog 1 lb. $1.09

Bonita Crabmeat Imitation 16 oz. $1.99

Ground Beef 5 LBS. $9.99 10 LBS. $16.99

Bar-S Hotlinks 24 oz. $3.99

Mackarel Family Bag $5.99

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. $2.99

Seafood Mix Log Feng Brand 1 lb. $2.59

Blue Crab Section Per Box $8.95

Vega Shrimp 1 lb. $4.99

Imperial Choice Green Mussels 2 lbs. $4.99

Chicken Wings 3 lbs. $5.99 /PACK

Milk Fish $1.39

Tilapia $.99¢

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen $1.99

Onion 79¢ /LB

Garlic per bundle 89¢

Spam 12 oz. LIMIT 6 GARLIC & REGULAR ONLY $1.99 OTHER FLAVOR $2.29

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. $1.39

Armour & Libby's Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 69¢

Beach Cliff Sardines 3.75 oz. 89¢

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 $2.29

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. $1.99

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. $1.79

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Master A1 Tuna 7 oz. Limit 6 99¢

3 Diamond Tuna $1.19

Sun Flower Mackarel 15 oz. $1.59

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz. 99¢

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz. 99¢

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn 89¢

Carnation Evaporated Milk 12 oz. $1.19

Crisco All Vegetable Shortening 3 lbs. $4.99

Dragon Veg. Oil 1 Gal. $6.99

Vegetable Oil 5 Gal. LIMIT 1 $24.99

Garden Fresco Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. $6.99

Golden State Vinegar 1 Gal. $3.19

Crisco Pure Corn 64 oz. $7.99

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Spears) 1 Gal. $5.99

Kikkoman 1.6 L. $3.99

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. $4.99

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 4 pcs. $2.99

Maseca 4.4 lbs. Limit 1 pc. $4.99

Coco Mackerel 15 oz. $1.29

Sugar 2 kg. $1.49

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. 69¢

Folgers Classic Roast 39 oz. $10.99

Coffee-Mate Creamer 50 oz. $7.99

Moist Deluxe Except Yellow Classic Cake 18.25 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Kraft Cool Whip 8 OZ. $1.99 16 OZ. $3.50

Philadelphia Original Creame Cheese $3.99

Albers Yellow Corn Meal 1 lb. $1.99

Argo Corn Starch $1.09

Nissin Cup Noodles 12 pcs. $5.95

Nestea Iced Tea 36 qts. $7.99

Tang 22 qts. $5.99

Kool-Aid 32 oz. $7.99

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only $5.99

Whole Chicken Can 50 oz. $5.99

Real Fresh Milk (Regular only) $20.99 /CASE 236 ml. $16.99

Enfamil Next Step Lipil 24 oz. $26.99

Enfamil Lipil with Iron 8 oz by 16 cans $39.95 per case

Coke Regular 24/Case Warm Only $12.99

Shasta Drinks 112oz All Flavor (warm only) $12.99

Pepsi Regular Warm Only $16.99 /CASE

Budweiser/Budlight 24/Case Warm Only 3 days only (8/28 - 8/30) $25.99

Korean Butane Gas LIMIT 1 Case 3 days only (8/28 - 8/30) $19.99 /CASE

Foam Cups 51 cnts. $1.99

Bounty Basic 15 ROLLS $15.99 8 ROLLS $8.99

Bounty 15 Rolls $19.99

Foam Plates 125 ct. $6.99

RAID 17.5 oz. (red color only) was $5.99 NOW $4.99

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cnts. $1.29

Horse Shampoo 1 qrt. 2 FOR $3.00

Bottled White Candle 12 pcs/case $13.99 /CASE

Drypers (All Size) Mega Pack $14.99

Luvs Big Pack (All Size) $19.99

Cottonelle Single 24 rolls Tissue $8.99

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. $5.99

NON-FOOD

SOFT 'N GENTLE (12 ROLLS)	$4.99
CHARMIN (24 ROLLS)	$8.99
GAIN POWDER (120 LOADS)	$19.95
GAIN LIQUID (300 OZ.)	$16.95
JOY ULTRA LEMON DISHWASHING LIQUID (90 OZ.)	$6.99
SUAVE SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER (15 OZ.)	2 FOR $3.00
PLATINUM NAPKIN (360 CTS)	$3.99

FAMILY BAG SPECIAL

BEEF SHANK	$10.95	BEEF BACK RIBS	$7.95
FLANK STEAK	$16.95	BEEF OXTAIL	$16.95
PORK ADOBO	$10.95	BEEF STEW	$12.95
PORK CHOP	$11.95	RIBEYE STEAK	$17.95
PORK BELLY	$11.95	BEEF TOP ROUND STEAK	$14.95
STEWING CHICKEN	$6.95	SMOKED HAM STEAK	$12.95
TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG)	$4.99	PORK BUTT	$10.95
U.S. CHOICE BEEF SHORTRIBS	$13.99		

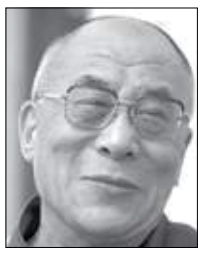
Asia

Taiwan's government approves visit by Dalai Lama

By ANNIE HUANG
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's leader said Thursday he has agreed to let the Dalai Lama visit the island to comfort survivors of a devastating typhoon, in a surprising move that could anger China.

President Ma Ying-jeou's announcement was unexpected because he has made a priority of seeking better relations with China, and just last December nixed plans for a visit by the Buddhist spiritual leader in what was deemed a move to placate Beijing.


Dalai-Lama

But his government has come under fire over its slow response to Typhoon Morakot, which claimed 670 lives when it hit Aug. 8-9, and opposition politicians in the storm zone pointedly invited the Tibetan spiritual leader to the island to console survivors.

The invitation put Ma into a bind—either risk angering China, or give further ammunition to the opposition, which accuses him of hewing Beijing's line. On Thursday, Ma gave his answer while visiting a school in Nantou County that was destroyed in mudslides triggered by the storm.

"The Dalai Lama could come to Taiwan to help rest the souls of the dead and also pray for the well-being of the survivors," he said.

There was no immediate comment from either China's Taiwan Affairs Office or Foreign Ministry.

Beijing considers the Dalai Lama a "splittist" for promoting autonomy in the Chinese region of Tibet, and opposes visits to foreign countries that raise his profile. Allowing him to visit Taiwan could undermine the rapidly improving relations between Beijing and Taipei, longtime rivals which are developing close business ties after decades of enmity.

China claims self-governing Taiwan as part of its territory, though they split amid civil war in 1949.

ADB: Slowdown mars poverty reduction goals in Asia

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Large pockets of extreme poverty and hunger persist in Asia, where the global downturn makes it more difficult to achieve U.N. goals to reduce the ranks of the poor, the Asian Development Bank said Wednesday.

Supporting smaller businesses, where most Asians are employed, is key to fueling domestic demand and growth, the Manila-based lender said in a report on key economic indicators.

In 19 Asian economies, including the most populous China and India, more than 10 percent of people live on less than $1.25 a day and more than 10 percent are malnourished. This is despite the region's success over the last 15 years in cutting the number of poor from one in two to around one in four, the report said.

Nepal is the worst off with 55.1 percent of its population surviving on less than $1.25 a day. In China and India, 15.9 percent and 41.6 percent of the population live below the poverty line, respectively.

Income gap remains wide in many other countries.

More than 30 percent of Tajikistan's population suffers from hunger, as do 20-30 percent of the people in Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Mongolia, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and East Timor, the ADB said.

Among the so-called U.N. Millennium Development Goals is cutting in half extreme poverty and hunger by 2015 and reducing maternal mortality by three-quarters over the same period.

The report said that Asia faces serious challenges in meeting goals linked to sanitation and maternal deaths, which remain unacceptably high in countries such as Afghanistan, Nepal and Laos.

About 1,800 out of every 100,000 Afghan women die in childbirth while more than a quarter of urban households in 13 countries still lack access to improved sanitation, the bank said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Karzai widens lead in Afghan vote count

KABUL (AP)—President Hamid Karzai extended his lead over his top challenger in Afghanistan's presidential election, new vote results showed Wednesday, but remains short of the 50 percent threshold that would allow him to avoid a two-man runoff. Afghan election officials are slowly releasing results from last week's presidential election, and final certified results will not be ready until at least mid-September, after dozens of serious complaints of fraud have been investigated. Top challenger Abdullah Abdullah has accused Karzai of widespread rigging, including ballot stuffing and voter intimidation, claims Karzai's camp has denied.

Koreas hold talks on reuniting divided families

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North and South Korean officials held their first talks Wednesday in nearly two years on arranging reunions of families separated by the Korean War more than five decades ago, the latest sign of easing tensions on the divided peninsula. The three days of talks, being held at North Korea's Diamond Mountain resort, come as the communist regime adopts a more conciliatory stance toward South Korea and the United States. The two delegations, led by Red Cross officials, are expected to announce an agreement on Friday.

3 killed in shooting in Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Police say gunmen have opened fire on a group of men in a street in the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta, killing three. Officer Abdul Rahim said Wednesday's attack in Quetta was a "targeted killing" but did not elaborate. He says the victims were from the Punjab province. Quetta is the capital of Baluchistan, where ethnic Baluch separatists occasionally kill people from outside the region.

2 US troops killed in Afghanistan

KABUL (AP)—The NATO-led force in Afghanistan says attacks have killed two U.S. troops, keeping August on track to be the deadliest month of the war for the U.S. military. NATO says one American died Wednesday after an improvised explosive device detonated in southern Afghanistan. A second service member was killed in an attack in the east. No other information was released. The two deaths bring to 43 the number of U.S. troops killed in Afghanistan this month. July was the deadliest month of the nearly eight-year war—44 U.S. troops died.

PRIORITY OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the Jobs for Veterans Act (US PL 107-288) (38 USC 4215), priority of service is provided to veterans (and certain spouses) who otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for all employment and training programs funded by the USDOL to include funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

For more information, contact WIA at 664-1704; 1707;1708 and 1757 or email us at gov.wia@pticom.com.

This community outreach is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, September 03, 2009 at 6:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Bldg., Saipan.

A. Preliminary Matters
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes
   5. Communications
B. Reports
   1. Chairman
   2. Secretary
   3. Treasurer
   4. Administrator
   5. Committees
   6. Legal Counsel
C. Public Comments
D. Permits/ Applications and related actions: review and decide
   1. Conditional Use - Application #2009-1681, Pansy Inc.
   2. Temporary Use - Application #2009-2477, Hayden Corporation
E. Old Business.
   1. Tanapag Rezone - review and decide.
F. New Business
   1. Beach Road Corridor Improvement Plan Grant Application
G. Executive (Closed) Session - Consult with Legal Counsel regarding pending or anticipated legal matters
H. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Victor Barrett, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Henry Hofschneider, Chairman

ROTA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
POST OFFICE BOX 1547, ROTA, MP 96951
PHONE: 1.670.532.7242
EMAIL: email@rotacasino.com

PURSUANT TO THE OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, DIEGO M. SONGAO HEREBY ANNOUNCES THAT THE ROTA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION'S REGULAR MEETING FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2009.

DATE: Friday, 28 August 2009

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Annex Building
Rota Casino Gaming Commission's Office

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Adoption of Agenda
IV. Adoption of Minutes
V. Chairman's Report
VI. Old Business
   • Funding Status
VII. New Business
   • Junket Regulations (Draft)
   • Request for LWOP
VIII. Miscellaneous
IX. Adjournment

*At anytime during the meeting, the Commission may move to Executive Session.

/s/ DIEGO M. SONGAO, Chairman — 24, August 2009

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND
"Investing For the Future Financial Security Of Our Members"

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
GROUP HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE TRUST FUND

FINANCIAL AUDITS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. RF09-061

OPENING DATE: August 28, 2009 CLOSING DATE: September 28, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund is soliciting sealed proposals to perform a financial audit of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund (NMIRF), Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC), and Group Health and Life Insurance Trust Fund (GHLITF) for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2009 and 2010. To receive the RFP package, you may mail, fax or e-mail your request to:

David S. Demapan, Comptroller
Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247 CK
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
Fax No. 670-664-8080
E-mail: comptroller@nmiretirement.com

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in a proposal if doing so is the best interest of the Fund. All proposals shall become the property of the NMI Retirement Fund.

/s/ Mark A. Aguon
Administrator

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Hooded men slay 12 Indians in Colombia

BOGOTA (AP)—Hooded men in uniforms without insignias on Wednesday shot and killed 12 members of the Awa indigenous group, including five children, on a reserve in a region plagued by the cocaine trade, authorities said. Indigenous leaders and government officials said the killings took place at 5 a.m. when 10 gunmen opened fire on two houses in the Gran Rosario reserve, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) inland from the port of Tumaco in Narino state. The reserve has about 1,500 Awa. The state governor, Antonio Navarro, told The Associated Press that the victims were all related. The attack killed five men, two women, two boys, two girls and a baby. He said two males, a 10-year-old and a 20-year-old, were wounded in the gunfire but fled and survived.

Israeli, Palestinian leaders likely to meet soon

BERLIN (AP)—The Israeli and Palestinian leaders are likely to hold their first meeting in the coming weeks, both sides indicated Wednesday, in what would be an important step toward a formal resumption of peace talks and a signal achievement for President Barack Obama. The indications came as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held four hours of talks with Obama's Mideast envoy, George Mitchell, in London on Wednesday. Mitchell has been pressing Israel to halt construction of West Bank settlements as a confidence-building gesture toward the Palestinians, and the issue has turned into an unusually public disagreement between the two allies.

French agent in Somalia escapes dozing kidnappers

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—A French security agent kidnapped by insurgents in Somalia last month said he escaped Wednesday while his captors slept, then walked five hours through one of the most dangerous cities in the world to safety at the country's presidential palace. Marc Aubriere, who was seized along with another agent in July 14, denied reports that he killed any of his captors during his escape. "The militants who were holding me treated me well, they were giving me nice food," he told The Associated Press before boarding a plane to leave Mogadishu. "I was not harmed. There is no one I have killed or injured while I was escaping." He said he escaped at midnight when his guards "were tired and sleepy."

Powerful Iraqi Shiite leader dies in Iran

BAGHDAD (AP)—Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, who channeled rising Shiite Muslim power after the fall of Saddam Hussein to become one of Iraq's most influential politicians and maintained ties with both the U.S. and Iran, died Wednesday in Tehran. He was 59. The calm, soft-spoken al-Hakim was a kingmaker in Iraq's politics as the head of the country's biggest Shiite political party, and his death from lung cancer left a vacancy at the helm with just five months to go before crucial parliamentary elections. Al-Hakim's family led a Shiite rebel group against Saddam's rule from their exile in Iran, where he lived for 20 years, building close ties with Iranian leaders.

World leaders pay tribute to Kennedy

DUBLIN (AP)—Nowhere outside of America has the Kennedy legacy been more deeply felt than in Ireland, where photographs of the family adorn homes and hundreds claim to be distant relations of the glittering dynasty that brought the first Roman Catholic to the White House.

Here, Senator Edward Kennedy is largely known as JFK's brother. But he was also a power broker who mobilized Irish Americans and their political views on Northern Ireland—a kingmaker whose actions in the years before the Good Friday peace talks served to lay the groundwork for a lasting accord.

"He lived to see two great chasms bridged, between Catholic and Protestant in Northern Ireland and between black and white in his own United States," former Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern said. "These achievements, which were the dreams imagined by his brothers in his youth, were the legacy of a long life and of a good and great man."

Initially a strong supporter of the Irish nationalist cause, Kennedy was a key American promoter of the peace process, urging Britain to negotiate with the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party, and also reaching out to Protestant Unionists.

David Owen, who served as British foreign secretary in the 1970s, said Kennedy put his weight behind peace in Northern Ireland even at the risk of alienating powerful Irish-American allies whose sympathies lay with the province's Catholic Irish nationalists rather than the British Protestant majority.

"His influence on the peace process, and his influence on successive American presidents was I think absolutely crucial, and in particular of course on President (Bill) Clinton," Owen told the BBC.

Martin McGuinness, formerly an Irish Republican Army commander and now the senior Catholic in Northern Ireland's power-sharing administration, told the broadcaster that despite disagreements he had "always respected" the senator, saying that "he understood what was required for the conflict to be resolved."

At a Dublin pub, 69-year-old Gerry Keating said Kennedy's role in the peace process made him "a good man."

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-DPL-134

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 17, 2009 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"RESEARCH AND SURVEYS FOR LOT TD-355, ISLAND OF ROTA, CNMI AND ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS SURROUNDING LOT TD-355 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS, DIVISION OF PLANNING OFFICE, CONTACT NUMBER (670) 234-3751/2/3.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE FAXED TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS SECRETARY, JOHN S. DEL ROSARIO AT (670) 234-3755 **NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 08, 2009.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERECED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **JOHN S. DEL ROSARIO**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-DOC-141

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 09, 2009 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"TO PROVIDE DATA SAMPLING, DETAILED DATA ANALYSIS, QUESTIONAIRE DESIGN, PRODUCTION OF DATA INPUT TEMPLATES, DATA EDITING/ANALYZING AND WRITING OF DATA SUMMARIES A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. MICHAEL ADA, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VIA E-MAIL TO depcommerce.ada@gmail.com OR FAX TO (670) 664-3067 NO LATER THAN **4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, AUGUST 31, 2009.**

THIS IS FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ **MICHAEL ADA**
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB09-CHC-144

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.
OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 • TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"FUEL AND LUBRICANT SERVICES FOR GENERATORS, BOILERS AND MACHINERIES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES REGARDING THIS ITB IS DUE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 15, 2009, CLOSE OF BUSINESS AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO RAY CHONG, MAINTENANCE BRANCH MANAGER AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 236-8350

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ**
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-CHC-138

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 • TIME: 3:00 P.M.

"TO PROVIDE RENAL SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **MS. TINA SNODGRASS, ACTING MANAGER, SOCIAL SERVICE** BY FAX TO (670) 234-8930 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS **SEPTEMBER 15, 2009.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERECED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **PEDRO T. UNTALAN**
ACTING SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE
August 12, 2009

SAIPAN AIRPORT and SEAPORT PARKING

This is to inform the general public that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) installed a new system for the parking facilities at the Saipan International Airport, the Commuter terminal and the Port of Saipan. The new system, which will begin operating on August 20, 2009, dispenses a plastic card upon entry and the card is returned when exiting. The system reads the elapsed time between entry and exit and indicates the appropriate charge.

The Commuter Terminal and the Port of Saipan will be given a grace period of ten (10) minutes. A fee of $1.00 will be charged when the elapsed time between entry and exit exceeds ten (10) minutes for the first hour and an additional dollar for each additional hour or a fraction of an hour. THE PARKING FEE COLLECTION AT **THE COMMUTER TERMINAL WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009.**

The parking fee at the Saipan International Airport for the first hour is one dollar and an additional dollar for each additional hour or a fraction of an hour.

The total charge for each 24-hour period is $10.00 for the Main Terminal, Commuter Terminal and the Port of Saipan. For each additional hour or fraction of an hour, an additional dollar will be charged.

A customer who loses a parking card will be charged $10.00 for the lost card and will also be charged the appropriate parking fee for the time parked. The customer with the lost parking card may be required to park on the side to allow other customers to exit first and then give time for the parking booth attendant to check the system to resolve the matter.

A customer with a valid Handicap Placard will not be charged any parking fee as long as the handicap person who was issued the placard is present in the vehicle. All customers with a valid Handicap Placard should call the CPA Accounting Office.

All parking fees are non-refundable.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. JoyAnn DeLeon Guerrero at (670) 237-6500.

EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, 2nd Floor, Morgen Building
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel(670)664-8300 • Fax(670)664-8315
Website: www.crm.gov.mp

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE
NOTICE OF MEETING
OF THE
CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on Monday, August 31, 2009, at 1:30 P.M. at the CRM conference room, 1st floor Morgen Building, Oleai, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
a) Call to Order
b) Roll Call

II. PERMIT APPLICATION
1. **Manglona Rock Quarry – CRM Permit no. RMS-2009-X-057**
   a. Permit application/summary by CRMO
   b. Discussion of permit application by CRM Agencies/CRMO
   c. Permit status determination (CRM Agencies/CRMO)

III. OTHER MATTERS

IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. [Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Agency Officials may vote to meet in executive session.]

JOHN B. JOYNER, Ph.D.
Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, 2nd Floor, Morgen Building
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel(670)664-8300 • Fax(670)664-8315
Website: www.crm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) will hold a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. RMS-2009-X-057 to conduct quarry operations on 50,000 square meters of land located in Ginalangan, Rota. Quarrying activities will include the use of heavy equipment for crushing, digging, sifting, sorting, and transporting quarry materials.

The public hearing will be held on **Thursday, September 03, 2009 at 6:30 pm, at the Superior Court House,** in Sinapalo, Rota.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and make oral comments regarding this proposed quarry project. The project file is open for review 7:30 A.M.–4:30 P.M. Monday–Friday at the Rota and Saipan CRM offices. Written comments may be submitted to the CRM Rota Office located at the Sangrada Building in Songsong Village, or the CRM Saipan Office located on the 2nd floor of the Morgen Building in Oleai, or mailed to Coastal Resources Management Office, Caller Box 10007, or faxed to 664-8315 or 532-1000. All written and oral comments received will be made a part of the permit application record, and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed quarry project.

Please contact Coastal Resources Management at 532-0464 or 664-8300 if you require further information regarding this notice of public hearing.

JOHN B. JOYNER, Ph.D.
Director
Coastal Resources Management

Off the Wall

NYC's 'skinniest' house has fat price tag: $2.7M

NEW YORK (AP)—It's 9 1/2 feet wide and 42 feet long and is billed as the narrowest house in New York City. But there's nothing small about its asking price: $2.7 million.

Located at 75 1/2 Bedford St. in Greenwich Village, the red brick building was built in 1873, sandwiched in a narrow space that used to be an alley between homes at 75 and 77 Bedford.

The narrow house is considered a curiosity and is one of the neighborhood's most photographed homes. A small plaque on the house notes that poet Edna St. Vincent Millay once lived there; so did anthropologist Margaret Mead.

Real estate broker Alex Nicholas says there is interest in the property and he has appointments on Thursday to show the home to three different potential buyers.

The residential interiors are a tight squeeze even by New York standards, measuring just 8 1/2 feet wide and 42 feet long on each of its three floors.

"Due to the narrowness of the house, I think you have to be very clever in how you decorate," Nicholas said.

The current owners bought the house for $1.6 million in 2000.

The broker's Web site describes it as a vertical suite, with a kitchen, dining room and parlor on the first floor, a double living room on the second floor and a top-floor master bedroom suite. A trapdoor in the kitchen floor leads to a finished basement.

Large windows in the front and back of the house and a garret skylight, plus a small backyard garden, give it "an airiness, a sense of light and charm," Nicholas said.

He predicted the property will fetch its listed price due to its uniqueness, history and location in one of the city's most famous preserved neighborhoods.



AP

A pedestrian takes a picture of the narrowest house in New York City, located at 75 1/2 Bedford Street in Greenwich Village, New York, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009. It is 9 1/2 feet wide and 42 feet long and its asking price is $2.7 million.

Man arrested in NM for 22nd drunk driving offense

ESPANOLA, N.M. (AP)—Police said a man was arrested on Monday for his 22nd drunken driving offense—and his blood-alcohol content tested almost five times higher than New Mexico's legal limit. State Police Lt. Eric Garcia said an officer pulled up to a car parked along a highway and found a 51-year-old man on the ground near his vehicle.

"He was coherent," Garcia said. "He showed signs of slurred speech, as might be normal for any DWI arrest, which led the officer to believe he might be driving under the influence."

Garcia said the suspect had to be taken by ambulance to Christus St. Vincent hospital in Santa Fe, where a blood-alcohol analysis showed a content level of .393 percent. New Mexico's limit for presumed intoxication is .08 percent.

Police said records showed the man has been arrested five times in New Mexico and at least 16 times elsewhere.

The suspect, who faces a felony DWI charge, was booked into the Santa Fe County jail.

Garcia said records showed the man faces pending DWI charges in Angel Fire and Espanola. He also was served with arrest warrants from San Miguel, Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties—all on DWI-related charges.

Garcia didn't know if the man had any prior DWI convictions.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Drunk man found at grocery store eating avocados

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP)—Police said a man was arrested at a grocery store after workers found him at a table in the deli, eating avocados, cake and other items. Bismarck Police Lt. Randy Ziegler said the 38-year-old man was intoxicated and had a hearty spread, including cake, cookies and plums, in the deli area of Cashwise Foods about 2:45 a.m. Tuesday. Ziegler said avocado pits and pistachio shells ended up on the floor and on a connecting table in the store. He said the man told officers he had no money and had no idea how he planned to pay for the food. Police arrested him on a misdemeanor theft charge.

Man's drive-thru doze leads to DUI charges

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP)—Authorities said a 27-year-old man has been charged with drunk driving after he fell asleep in his car at a McDonald's drive-thru. A Benton County sheriff's deputy called to the drive-thru arrested the man early Sunday. According to a police report, the man had a blood-alcohol content of .18 percent—more than twice Oregon's legal limit.

Irate woman allegedly threatens postal worker

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—An off-duty Anchorage police officer arrested a woman accused of threatening to kill a postal worker because a package was late. Anchorage Police Lt. Dave Parker said Officer Cameron Hokenson was at the post office Monday on personal business when he witnessed a 64-year-old woman threaten an employee at the postal counter. Hokenson identified himself, told the woman she needed to calm down and escorted her to another area of the lobby. The woman allegedly told the officer to shut up or she would kill him, too. Hokenson than asked the woman to leave. According to Parker, the woman responded by fighting and scratching the officer, prompting the arrest.

Chicken owner shoots own leg while hunting opossum

MOUNT VERNON, Wash. (AP)—A northwest Washington man is recovering after accidentally shooting himself in the leg while hunting an opossum that had been snatching his chickens. Larry Tenbrink of Mount Vernon was watching TV when he heard his chickens "carrying on" late Sunday. He figured the problem was the opossum that had already killed more than a dozen of his chickens over the past few months. Tenbrink grabbed his .22 caliber pistol, headed outside and spotted an opossum the size of a large cat wandering his property. But he accidentally pulled the trigger too early, sending a bullet through his lower right thigh.

Bear climbs ladder to escape Colorado skate park

SNOWMASS, Colo. (AP)—A bear that wandered into a sunken skateboard park and got stuck was rescued when officials lowered a ladder so it could climb out. The bear was discovered Tuesday morning in the Colorado resort town of Snowmass. Officials say it apparently was in the park all night, and couldn't get out because of the steep concrete sides.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB09-003

PURCHASE OF PACIFIC AND ADULT MATERIALS FOR THE TINIAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors through its Chairwoman of the Board is soliciting competitive sealed bids from interested vendors for the purchase of Pacific and Adult Materials for the Tinian Public Library.

Copies of the Scope of Work may be obtained at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday except CNMI Holidays.

Sealed bids must be marked **"NMHC IFB09-003"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m., local time, September 4, 2009**.

Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, Friday, September 4, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 4, 2009**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **September 17, 2009**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m.**, local time, **September 18, 2009**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m.**, local time on **September 4, 2009**.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this procurement. This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC further notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contracts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority and women-owned business enterprises (MBE/WBE) are afforded equal opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, gender, age, disability or national origin.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ **Merced (Marcie) M. Tomokane** **Chairwoman of the Board**

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan** **Director, Procurement & Supply**

This ad is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB09-004

OFFICE SPACE FOR NMHC IN ROTA

OPENING DATE OF BID: Thursday, September 10, 2009
Time: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors through its Chairwoman of the Board, are soliciting competitive sealed bids from interested owners of commercial buildings in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up the Scope of Work at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Field Office in Songsong Village, Rota, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday except CNMI holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Edith C. Fejeran, Office Manager, at telephone nos. 670.234-6866/7689 during regular business hours or Mark Manglona, Rota Field Office Representative, at 670.532-9410.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal in the best interest of the NMHC and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **Merced (Marcie) M. Tomokane** **Chairwoman of the Board**

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan** **Director, Procurement & Supply**

This ad is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
For the Preventive Maintenance of the Air-Conditioning Units
at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and
CPA Saipan Seaport Building
Project No. RFP-006-09

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified air-conditioning and refrigeration companies for service and preventive maintenance of the air-conditioning units at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and the CPA Saipan Seaport Building, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope of Work is available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, telephone number (670) 237-6500. A pre-proposal meeting and on-site visit is mandatory and to be conducted on Friday, August 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. Only contractors present at the pre-proposal meeting and on-site inspection of the units will be allowed to submit proposals.

The term of the Service and Preventive Maintenance Services contract shall be for two (2) years. Performance and payment bonds will be required for this project and the cost of acquiring the bonds should be included in the proposed price.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Service and Preventive Maintenance of the Air-Conditioning Units at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport/CPA Saipan Seaport Building, Project No. RFP-006-09." Associated costs for the airport and seaport buildings should be submitted together but as separate proposals. Determination of the winning proposal will be based on the overall price for both airport and seaport.

All proposals shall be submitted no later than **4:30 p.m.** local time, **Friday, September 11, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The successful proposer will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CPA Procurement Regulations.

CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become the property of CPA.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. August 28, 2009
Executive Director

Science & Technology

Wikipedia testing new method to curb false info

NEW YORK (AP)—Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia that has drawn some decidedly juvenile pranks, is looking to impose more discipline with new restrictions on the editing of articles.

The latest changes come as Wikipedia tries to balance a need for credibility and a desire for openness.

While anyone can still edit entries, the site is testing pages that won't register changes until they are approved by an experienced Wikipedia editor.

If the site's users respond well to the test run, the new restrictions will apply to all entries for living people in the next few weeks.

The idea is to block the kind of high-profile vandalism that has marred some pages.

In one of the most recent embarrassments, Democratic Sens. Robert Byrd and Edward Kennedy were prematurely declared dead by rogue editors.

Still, Wikipedia risks discouraging legitimate editing if restrictions on changes or additions become too burdensome, keeping articles from getting better or keeping up with events.

That may be especially true on more obscure pages with fewer active volunteers to approve edits in a timely way.

Aware of the risks, Wikipedia has set the criteria for "experienced editor" status relatively low. Users who are registered for a few days can give changes the OK, said Jay Walsh, a spokesman for the nonprofit Wikimedia Foundation, which runs the site.

A more uniform system for filtering changes on Wikipedia represents a step back from the site's original philosophy, which called for harnessing the collective knowledge of volunteer editors without any major restrictions.

But it is not the first time Wikipedia has attached some strings.

The same flagging process, for example, has been imposed on all entries in the German-language Wikipedia for more than a year.

On the English site, too, high-profile pages that are likely to be defaced, such as Michael Jackson's, have been tightly restricted.

Some observers believe Wikipedia must continue tightening editing policies if it wants to gain credibility.

"I'm just waiting for the other shoe to drop," said Eric Goldman, director of the High Tech Law Institute at the Santa Clara University School of Law.

Goldman envisions a future Wikipedia curated by a relatively small group of dedicated editors. Under the current model, he said, there simply aren't enough volunteers to catch all errors.

"My hope is that Wikipedia still exists and is still considered a useful site," Goldman said. "But it will be at that point a very tightly controlled site. It won't have that veneer of a site that anyone can contribute to. They haven't closed the drawbridge. People can still get in. But it keeps going up and up and up."



YouTube's new sales pitch: join our ad program

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—YouTube hopes to convert more amateur videographers into capitalists as it strives to show more advertising on its Web site and reverse years of uninterrupted losses.

The Internet's top video channel will try to widen participation in a 20-month-old advertising program by actively recruiting the makers of widely watched clips.

The more aggressive approach announced Tuesday is a switch from YouTube's previous practice of waiting for video makers to apply to the ad program.

The strategy hasn't been profitable for YouTube so far—something that the site's owner, Internet search leader Google Inc., wants to change.

After buying YouTube for $1.76 billion in late 2006, Mountain View-based Google initially focused on luring more people to the video site.

As the recession squeezed Google, the emphasis this year shifted to making money, prompting YouTube to explore new ways to show ads alongside more of the millions of clips clicked on its site each day.

YouTube won't allow advertising without the consent of a video maker, largely to avoid legal fights over who has the right to profit from the work.

That policy means YouTube needs to persuade more video makers to allow ads. Toward that end, YouTube will try to quickly identify videos with a big following and then contact the owners of the clips about advertising opportunities.

YouTube expects the solicitations to boost the number of advertising partners from the thousands to the tens of thousands, said Tom Pickett, the video site's director of online sales and operations.

CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY TIPS



By ROB PEGORARO
(c) 2009, The Washington Post

This tip goes out to any software developers who read this: The Start menu is not a dumping ground for every secondary file an application might use, such as its "readme" file, its help documentation, its uninstaller or a link to its Web site. It's meant for one thing—a shortcut to the program itself—and all those other items only waste space in the already-cramped Start menu.

For that matter, there's no reason to put a program's Start menu link inside a separate folder, unless you somehow think users appreciate the extra mouse clicks needed to run the application. (Hint: We don't.)

To its credit, Microsoft gives this advice on its developers' site; to its discredit, it can't always get its own programmers to follow it. Just a Windows user, not a programmer? You now know one way to tell the thoughtful developers from the careless ones. (You can rearrange the Start menu by hand but you'll probably have to redo this work every time a program updates itself.)

■■■

You can come up with fair arguments to shop for electronics gear in physical stores or on the Web; real-world merchants let you inspect the merchandise firsthand and provide near-instant gratification, while online retailers typically offer better prices. But it's hard to conjure up a reason to buy audio, video or data cables in most land-based shops: Too many of them can't resist the temptation to pad their profits by charging triple, quadruple or quintuple what online discounters charge.

For example, I've yet to see HDMI digital audio-video cables (handy for connecting HDTVs and video sources like digital video recorders) sell for less than $20 in mass-market retailers, while Web-only stores such as Amazon or the cable specialist monoprice.com offer numerous under-$10 models that work just as well as the expensive, name-brand hardware in a big-box store. (Tip to retailers: Try charging only double the online rate; the convenience of being able to take the cables home right away might justify that sort of markup.)

JOSEPH NGIRAIBAI STEPHANUS
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Saipan, MP 96950
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pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:	**FCD GU Civil Action No. 09-0507**
JOELY SIMINA JACK STEPHANUS, Minor Child, By:	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
JOSEPH NGIRAIBAI STEPHANUS and ONGELIBL RECHEKED STEPHANUS, Petitoners.	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on September 9, 2009, at 9:00am in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 26th day of August, 2009.

/s/ BERNADITA SABLAN
Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsmile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Vicente Cabrera Attao

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ROSARIO CABRERA ATTAO Decedent.	**Civil Action No. 09-0307-CV** **NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR** Date: Sept 8, 2009 Time: 1:30 PM Judge: Najara

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ROSARIO CABRERA ATTAO OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Vicente Cabrera Attao, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letters of Administration and for his Appointment as Admistrator of the Estate of Rosario Cabrera Attao, Deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration and Appointment of Administrator by Vicente Cabrera Attao, as Petitioner, has been set for September 8, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All Interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Deceased or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 29th day of July 2009.

/s/ BERNADITA A. SABLAN
Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, fka MARIANAS BANK, LTD., Plaintiff, -v-. **JUAN R. SABLAN and ANGELINE F. SABLAN,** Defendants.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1054** **SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Real property situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot E.A. 839 NEW-6-3, containing an area of 1,329 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 4, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of August, 2009:

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, -v-. **MARIANO S. NAPUTI,** Defendant.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-382** **SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 13, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as Document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 4, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of August, 2009:

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v-. **DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA,** Defendants.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0054** **SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: (a) Lot No. 005 I 180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 02, the original of which was recorded March 11, 1983, as Document No. 16707, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan; and (b) Tract No. 225840-1-1, located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on DLS Check No. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded a File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 4, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of August, 2009:

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v-. **JOSEPH ALDAN ARRIOLA,** Defendant.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0021** **SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 31, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 034 L 129, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 034 L 21 recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299; and lot 034 L 130 situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 34 L 21, recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 4, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of August, 2009:

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**, Auctioneer

Life & Style

Crime story author Dominick Dunne, 83, dies in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Author Dominick Dunne, who told stories of shocking crimes among the rich and famous through his magazine articles and best-selling novels such as "The Two Mrs. Grenvilles," died Wednesday in his home at age 83.

Dunne's son, actor-director Griffin Dunne, said in a statement released by Vanity Fair magazine that his father had been battling bladder cancer. But the cancer had not prevented Dunne from working and socializing, his twin passions.

In September 2008, against the orders of his doctor and the wishes of his family, Dunne flew to Las Vegas to attend the kidnap-robbery trial of O.J. Simpson, a postscript to his coverage of Simpson's 1995 murder trial, which spiked Dunne's considerable fame.



AP

In this Aug. 11, 2005 file photo, Dominick Dunne poses for a photograph at his home in Hadlyme, Conn.

In the past year, Dunne had traveled to Germany and the Dominican Republic for experimental stem cell treatments to fight his cancer. He wrote that he and actress Farrah Fawcett were in the same cancer clinic in Bavaria but didn't see each other. Fawcett, a 1970s sex symbol and TV star of "Charlie's Angels," died in June at age 62.

Dunne discontinued his column at Vanity Fair to concentrate on finishing another novel, "Too Much Money," which is to come out in December. He also made a number of appearances to promote a documentary film about his life, "After the Party," which was being released on DVD.

Dunne, who lived in Manhattan, was beginning to write his memoirs and, until close to the end of his life, he posted messages on his Web site commenting on events in his life and thanking his fans for their support.

Vanity Fair editor Graydon Carter praised Dunne as a gifted reporter who proved as fascinating as the people he wrote about.

"Anyone who remembers the sight of O.J. Simpson trying on the famous glove probably remembers a bespectacled Dunne, resplendent in his trademark Turnbull & Asser monogrammed shirt, on the court bench behind him," Carter wrote in a statement released Wednesday. "It is fair to say that the halls of Vanity Fair will be lonelier without him and that, indeed, we will not see his like anytime soon, if ever again."

Police say Iraqi forces recover stolen Picasso

BAGHDAD (AP)—Special forces have recovered a stolen Picasso and arrested a man planning to sell the painting during a raid of his house in southern Iraq, Iraqi police said Wednesday.

The painting, "The Naked Woman," apparently had been among the artwork looted from Kuwait during Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion, said police spokesman Maj. Muthana Khalid.

It was seized Tuesday during a raid on the house belonging to the suspect near the mainly Shiite city of Hillah, about 60 miles (95 kilometers) south of Baghdad.

Khalid said the man was trying to sell the painting for $450,000, but some Iraqi experts who saw the painting said it was worth $10 million.

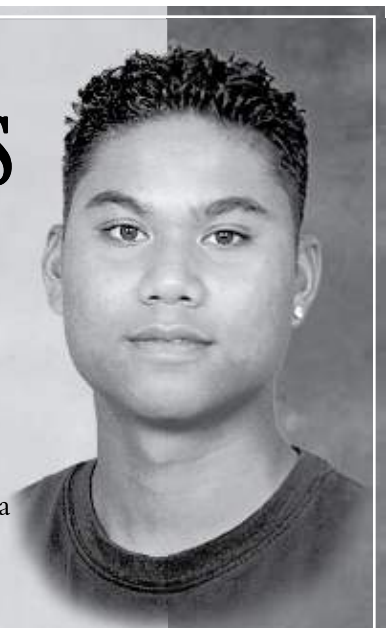
The painting, which was signed by Pablo Picasso and bore inscriptions from "The Museum of Kuwait" was being held as evidence while the suspected was interrogated, Khalid said. It appeared to have been folded several times in a picture of the painting that was released.

Goods and artwork from the neighboring country's wealthy homes and its national museum were hauled back to Iraq after the invasion, which led to the 1991 Gulf War.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

OCTAVIOUS MIKE TEIGITA PALACIOS

lovingly known as " SKEPPY"
was called to his eternal rest at the age of 21
May 06, 1988 – August 24, 2009



His memories will forever remain in the hearts of his:

PARENTS : Allen I. and Carmelita T. Palacios

PATERNAL PARENTS : Michael T. & Anabeliza I. Cangco

SISTERS / BROTHER-IN-LAW : Sherry Lynn T. Ochoa / Kenneth Ochoa
Bernice Catherine B. Cangco

GRANDMOTHER : Maria (Yaeko) I. Palacios

PATERNAL AUNTIES & UNCLES:

Rex I. Palacios & Mariana A. Sablan (Brian, †Elizabeth, Christina, Grabella, Patty)
Mark I. & Bernie C. Palacios (Velma, Marvin, Franklin, Mark)
Arnold I. & Maria S. Palacios (A.G., Nicole, Tiana, Eric)
Lars I. & Rose Palacios (Cedric, Francisco, Rose Marie)
Lambert I. & Rita S. Palacios (Dane, Halina)
Ramon I. & Ruby Palacios (John, Jason, Jacob, Riana)
Frank I. & Claudia P. Palacios (Tawny, Jerome, Blair, Sharon, Amy, Hannah)
Mary Ann P. & Fernando Soto
Thomasa I. Palacios & James Mendiola (Derek, Quina)
John Paul I. Palacios & Esther Manglona (Jared, Dustin, Ashley)
Eva I. Palacios (Justin, Brandon, Mariah)
Octavious I. Palacios
Alex I. Palacios

MATERNAL AUNTIES & UNCLES:

Pedro K. & Bernadita I. Teigita (Loraine, Michael, Jeffrey, Mariana, Peter)
Cayetana T. & Ereneo B.Dela Cruz (Eloy, †Ernie, Alva, Ivan, Anuncia)
Vicente T. & Remedio D. Cangco (Mariana, Joaquin, Jenam, Justin)
Michael T. & Anna I. Cangco (Jose, Sidbino, Sarina, Mickey, Samuel, M.J.)
Pasqual T. & Evelyn D. Cangco (Swayne, Tremane, Leilani)
†Samuel T. Cangco (Catalino, Joaquin, Corlyn, Courtney, Derek)
Hilaria C. & Jerry Woolley (KC, Geria)
Isaac T. & Pamela K. Cangco (Ignacia, Isaac Jr., Charlie, Jojo)

In his new life, he now joins his:

GRANDPARENTS: †Catalino T. Cangco & †Ignacia T. Cangco
†Dr. Francisco T. Palacios

PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS : †Iyar Tanaka & †Seresang Ngiralmau

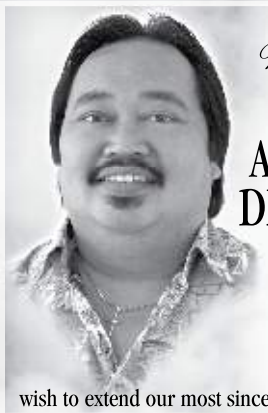
He will also be greatly missed by his other relatives and numerous friends.

Daily mass is being offered every 6:00pm followed by the holy rosary at 7:45pm at Santa Remedios Church, Tanapag.

On Tuesday, September 01, 2009, our beloved Skeppy will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:00am to the residence at Tanapag for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00am at Santa Remedios Church followed by interment services at Tanapag Public Cemetery.

Please join us in prayer

ALLEN I. & CARMELITA T. PALACIOS
and FAMILY



We are Forever Grateful

We, the family of the late

ANTONIO VILLAGOMEZ DELEON GUERRERO, JR.

Affectionately known as

"Tony"

wish to extend our most sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to all our families, relatives, and friends both near and far for your kindness and support during our time of sorrow.

We especially would like to acknowledge the many thoughtful prayers of comfort, kind expressions of sympathy, compassion, personal words of kindness and the invaluable time you shared with us.

Your presence at the daily masses, nightly rosaries and at the Mass of Christian burial and interment services was most especially comforting.

You have all been so wonderful which helped us in one way or the other ease the pain of the loss of a very important person in our lives. Your compassion and generosity will always be remembered in our hearts and prayers.

Although we are saddened and feel empty because our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle will no longer be among us to enjoy each other's company, laugh with, and/or be with us at family gatherings – we are happy because we know he is in peace with his Creator.

May God Bless Us All

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Alice, Children, Grandchild, Brothers, Sisters and Family

Chris Brown to get group counseling in Virginia

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Chris Brown likely will spend the next year in group counseling sessions learning about control and other relationship issues as part of his court-ordered treatment for beating ex-girlfriend Rihanna.

Brown was sentenced in California Tuesday to five years' probation, six months of community labor and a year of domestic violence counseling for the February attack, and he must stay away from his former girlfriend for the next five years. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patricia Schnegg is allowing Brown to complete the community labor and counseling in Richmond, near his Montpelier home.

Brown, 20, will undergo domestic violence counseling at Commonwealth Catholic Charities, a nonprofit social services organization that works with people from all faiths in central and southwestern Virginia.

Executive Director Joanne D. Nattrass said most of the counseling likely will be done in group sessions. She would not reveal when Brown would start the treatment nor any details about the program.

According to the organization's Web site, its Batterer's Intervention Program offers educational group sessions with discussions on such topics as control issues and equality in a relationship.

"BIP frequently tests and challenges each group member's behavior," the Web site states. "Progress is made only if the abuser is self-accountable for all behaviors, and develops the flexibility to make behavioral changes."

In a letter to the court, the charity said it would report on Brown's status monthly. Brown would be allowed to miss up to three sessions.

Richmond police officials said they still were working out what types of chores the 20-year-old will perform as community labor and when he would start. Schnegg wanted Brown to perform physical labor instead of community service, such as mentoring young people.

"The logistics and the timetable are still being worked out," police spokesman James Mercante said.

Included in those discussions is whether there would need to be added security for whatever duties Brown performs, he said.

Richmond Police Chief Bryan T. Norwood said Tuesday the department worked with Brown's attorney, Mark Geragos, for several weeks to work out the logistics of Brown's community labor.

"We welcome Chris Brown back to Richmond, and we assure everyone involved that the command of the court will be followed," he said in a statement.

Brown faces prison time if he violates the terms of his sentence. He had until Thursday to report to his probation officer in L.A.

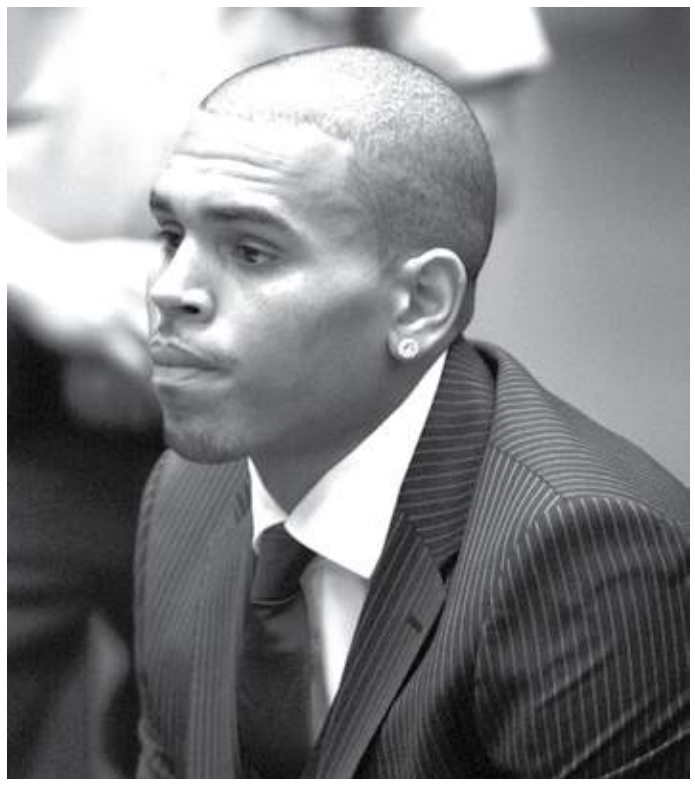
In the probation officer's report filed after sentencing, it said Brown said in a June 26 interview he was "ashamed and embarrassed" by his actions.

Brown told probation officials he immediately wanted to plead guilty and to undergo counseling before he started probation but his attorney would not allow it.

"The defendant started when he was growing up he saw violence in his own household and he does not want to, 'carry on that cycle,'" the report said.

Brown was arrested Feb. 8, hours after he was accused of beating Rihanna.

The attack occurred in Los Angeles' Hancock Park neighborhood as Brown drove a rented sports car. A Los Angeles police detective described a brutal attack in a search warrant affidavit filed in the case, stating Brown hit, choked and bit Rihanna and tried at one point to push her from the car.



AP

Chris Brown stand before the judge during his sentencing for assaulting his girlfriend Rihanna, at Los Angeles County Superior Court in Los Angeles, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009.

Slain model's missing car found in West Hollywood

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Police say a car found in West Hollywood belonged to an ex-model who police suspect was killed by a former reality show contestant.

Buena Park police Detective Eric Burciaga says police received an anonymous telephone tip Wednesday and found the white Mercedes-Benz belonging to Jasmine Fiore in a parking lot.

Fiore's nude body was found in suitcase in a Southern California trash bin on Aug. 15.

Burciaga says a witness told police the car had been parked in West Hollywood since the day of the killing.

Ryan Jenkins, a wealthy reality TV contestant wanted in the killing, was found hanging from a clothes rack in a hotel room in his native Canada on Sunday.

'Survivor' winner still in jail after hearing

BOSTON (AP)—A lawyer for "Survivor" winner Richard Hatch is threatening to go to court if her client is not released soon from a Massachusetts county jail.

Hatch had been serving the remainder of a prison term for tax evasion on home confinement at his sister's Newport, R.I., home. He was jailed Aug. 18 after granting two TV interviews for which the federal Bureau of Prisons says he didn't have proper permission.

Hatch remained behind bars at the Barnstable County jail in Bourne after a hearing Wednesday with sheriff's deputies, said his Los Angeles-based lawyer, Cynthia Ribas. She said the information gathered at the hearing will be passed on to federal prisons authorities, who will then decide whether Hatch will be moved back to a prison, to a halfway house or returned to home confinement.

Bureau of Prisons spokeswomen Felicia Ponce said she could not confirm where Hatch is being held, but said he remains under the supervision of the department's Philadelphia office.

"It's awful. It's been eight days. He's tormented. It makes no sense," Ribas said. "We'll file something in a real court of law if they don't get him out of there."

Hatch was not allowed to have a lawyer present at Wednesday's hearing with two sheriff's deputies, Ribas said. She and the Rhode Island chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union submitted witness statements.

The ACLU claims that Hatch's constitutional free speech rights are being trampled.

"It is appalling that he would actually be sent to jail for engaging in quintessential free speech activity," the ACLU said in a statement.

Hatch granted three television interviews last week—to NBC's "Today" show, NBC affiliate WJAR-TV in Providence, R.I., and the NBC-owned "Access Hollywood." He claimed in each interview that the judge in his case discriminated against him because he is gay, and accused federal prosecutors of misconduct.

A Bureau of Prisons spokeswoman said last week that the department bar prisoners on home confinement from granting media interviews without first getting permission.

Ribas said she received the proper permission for the "Today" interview and thought it extended to all NBC properties. But federal rules consider each media outlet separate.

Hatch was convicted in 2006 of failing to pay taxes on the $1 million prize he got for winning the first season of the CBS reality show. He was given extra prison time for lying on the stand. He has maintained his innocence.

His sentence is scheduled to end Oct. 7.



AP

Richard Hatch, who won the first "Survivor" television program, departs federal court in Providence, R.I. Federal officials arrested Hatch, 48, and took him to a Massachusetts county jail that's used to hold federal detainees Tuesday afternoon Aug. 18, 2009.

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Final Destination 4
Friday 4:25 7:20 9:30
Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:30
Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:20
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:25 7:20
Bobby Campo, Shantel VanSanten
Supernatural • Rated R

Synopsis
On what should have been a fun-filled day at the races, Nick O'Bannon has a horrific premonition in which a bizarre sequence of events causes multiple race cars to crash, sending flaming debris into the stands, brutally killing his friends and causing the upper deck of the stands to collapse on him. When he comes out of this grisly nightmare Nick panics, persuading his girlfriend, Lori, and their friends, Janet and Hunt, to leave... escaping seconds before Nick's frightening vision becomes a terrible reality. Thinking they've cheated death, the group has a new lease on life, but unfortunately for Nick and Lori, it is only the beginning.

Shorts
Friday 4:10 7:15 9:55
Saturday 1:05 4:10 7:15 9:55
Sunday 1:05 4:10 7:15
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:10 7:15
Jimmy Bennett, Jake Short
Children • Rated PG

Synopsis
Eleven-year-old Toe Thompson is the designated punching bag for the bullies of the suburban community of Black Falls, where his and everyone else's parents work for Black Box Industries, makers of the do-it-all gadget that's sweeping the nation. But during a freak storm, a mysterious Rainbow Rock, which grants wishes to anyone who finds it, falls from the sky. Suddenly, the neighborhood that Toe already thinks is weird is about to get a lot weirder.

Inglourious Basterds
Friday 4:00 7:00 10:00
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:00 7:00
Brad Pitt, Diane Kruger
Political • Rated R

Synopsis
In the first year of the German occupation of France, Shosanna Dreyfus witnesses the execution of her family at the hand of Nazi Colonel Hans Landa. Shosanna narrowly escapes and flees to Paris where she forges a new identity as the owner and operator of a cinema. Elsewhere in Europe, Lieutenant Aldo Raine organizes a group of Jewish American soldiers to perform swift, shocking acts of retribution. Later known to their enemy as "the basterds," Raine's squad joins German actress and undercover agent Bridget von Hammersmark on a mission to take down the leaders of the Third Reich.

District 9
Friday 4:05 7:10 9:50
Saturday 1:10 4:05 7:10 9:50
Sunday 1:10 4:05 7:10
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:05 7:10
Sharito Copley, Jason Cope
Sci-Fi • Rated R

The Time Traveler's Wife
Friday 4:20 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:25 4:20 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:25 4:20 7:05
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:20 7:05
Rachel McAdams, Eric Bana
Drama, Romance, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13

G-Force
Friday 4:15 7:30 9:45
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:30 9:45
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:30
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:15 7:30
Nicolas Cage, Steve Buscemi
Action, Animated • Rated PG

G.I. JOE
Friday 4:30 7:25 9:40
Saturday 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:30 7:25
Mon. thru Thurs. 4:30 7:25
Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum
War • Rated PG 13

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www.gohollywood.com

5 more acts make 'America's Got Talent' semifinals

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A guitarist from Baltimore, three singing sisters from Seattle, a percussive quartet from Goffstown, N.H., an opera singer from Houston and a pint-sized ballroom-dance duo from Everett, Wash., have claimed the last five semifinal spots on "America's Got Talent."

Drew Stevyns, the EriAm Sisters, Recycled Percussion, Barbara Padilla and Erik and Rickie joined the show's semifinal slate of 20 acts Wednesday. All are vying for a $1 million prize and the chance to headline a Las Vegas show in October.

Another seven acts were dismissed from the NBC talent show Wednesday. Viewers selected the top four favorites via phone, e-mail and text message votes, while judges Piers Morgan, Sharon Osbourne and David Hasselhoff picked the fifth semifinalist.

Judges heaped praise on two dance groups that didn't make the cut. And though they lauded pop singer Mia Boostrom for her voice and her resilience—she appeared on the show last season and auditioned again this time around—they didn't pick her for the last semifinal spot, instead choosing ballroom dancers Erik and Rickie, ages 8 and 9.

"This show is full of surprises," Osbourne said. "Nothing is predictable on this show."

Wednesday's episode also featured a performance by Reba McEntire, who said the key to making a good performance great is connecting with the audience, "and this is a great audience."

Host Nick Cannon said 10 semifinalists will perform on Tuesday's show.

LAPD looking for 3 suspects in Lohan burglary



AP

Actress Lindsay Lohan's home is shown in Los Angeles, Sunday, Aug. 23, 2009.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Police are looking for three suspects in the burglary of Lindsay Lohan's home.

The Los Angeles Police Department has released surveillance camera footage of the Sunday break-in at the "Mean Girls" star's house. The footage shows three people, whose faces are covered with scarves, walking through a gate at Lohan's Hollywood Hills home and entering a courtyard at around 1:10 a.m.

LAPD detectives believe the suspects—one male and two females, all 18 to 25 years old—entered the house through an unlocked door, then ransacked it and took property.

Lohan's spokeswoman, Leslie Sloane-Zelnik, said the break-in happened Sunday while the actress and her younger sister were away. Sloane-Zelnik said many of Lohan's "personal belongings were taken without remorse."

Lohan posted on Twitter she didn't think it was a robbery because "things that a certain old friend knew meant a lot to me" were taken.

Jack Ingram sets record for radio interviews: 215

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Country singer Jack Ingram is talked out.

Guinness World Record spokeswoman Laura Plunkett says Ingram set a record for most consecutive radio interviews in 24 hours.

Ingram gave 215 interviews between 8 a.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday as part of a promotional blitz for his new album, "Big Dreams & High Hopes."

From the base of the Brooklyn Bridge in New York, he spoke by phone with radio stations in most of the 50 states and parts of Canada, Ireland and Australia. He not only broke the record, he annihilated it. The previous mark was 96.

He says in a statement: "After that last 24 hours, I officially have nothing left to say."

Ingram's latest hit, "Barefoot and Crazy," is No. 11 on the Billboard country chart.

Eddie Cibrian has filed for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Eddie Cibrian (sib-ree-EN') is divorcing his wife of nearly eight years.

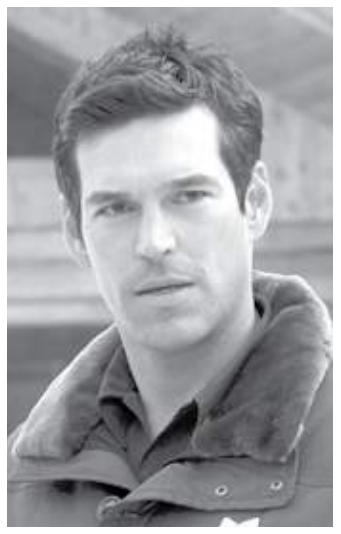
Court records show the 36-year-old actor, who has appeared on TV shows such as "Ugly Betty" and "The Starter Wife," filed for divorce on Monday. The court papers were filed in Los Angeles.

Cibrian and his wife, Brandi, were married in 2001. They have two sons, ages 6 and 2.

The divorce petition cites "irreconcilable differences."

Tabloid reports have linked Cibrian with LeAnn Rimes, his co-star in the TV movie "Northern Lights."

The filing doesn't indicate whether Brandi Cibrian has an attorney, and a phone listing could not be located.



AP

Eddie Cibrian stars as Nate Burns in the Lifetime original film, "Nora Roberts' Northern Lights."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Fall Out Boy singer Patrick Stump arrested in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Singer Patrick Stump of Fall Out Boy has been arrested on a two-year-old warrant for driving without a valid license. Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore says the 25-year-old was arrested late Tuesday during a traffic stop by Los Angeles police. He was booked on an outstanding warrant for driving without a license and released early Wednesday after posting $15,000 bail. Court records show Stump failed to appear on a misdemeanor driving without a valid driver's license case in Beverly Hills in June 2007. A judge issued a warrant for his arrest at the time. A phone message left for Stump's music publicist wasn't immediately returned Wednesday. Fall Out Boy is scheduled to play at the Reading Festival in England on Friday.

Kate Gosselin to sub as a co-host on 'The View'

NEW YORK (AP)—ABC is adding Kate Gosselin (GAHS'-lihn) to the list of guest co-hosts for "The View." Celebrity mom Gosselin will be subbing for regular "View" co-host Elisabeth Hasselbeck on Sept. 14 and 15. Hasselbeck is on maternity leave after giving birth to her third child, Isaiah, earlier this month. Gosselin, the mother of twins and sextuplets, co-stars with her estranged husband on TLC's reality series "Jon & Kate Plus 8." ABC has previously announced Meghan McCain, E.D. Hill and LaToya Jackson as guest co-hosts for the daytime talk show

Parker Posey withdraws from off-B'way production

NEW YORK (AP)—Parker Posey has withdrawn from a lead role in the upcoming Playwrights Horizons' production of "This" after developing Lyme disease. Artistic director Tim Sanford says the play by Melissa James Gibson will open Dec. 13 as scheduled at the off-Broadway theater. Previews begin Nov. 6. A replacement for Posey will be announced shortly. "This" concerns the tribulations of a poet who happens to be a single mother, struggling with her love life and the well-meaning attention of good friends. The 40-year-old Posey is an indie film favorite. She has appeared in such movies as "Waiting for Guffman" and "Best in Show."

Bid for crypt above Marilyn Monroe falls through

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The $4.6 million bid for the crypt above Marilyn Monroe has fallen through. Attorney David Camel says the bidder declined. Camel represents Elsie Poncher, who was auctioning off her late husband's crypt at the Westwood Village Memorial Park Cemetery on eBay.com. Camel says he's working with eBay to resolve the outcome of the auction. He also says there are no plans to move Poncher's husband until a new occupant is found. Bidding for the auction started at $500,000 on Aug 14. The final bid was $4,602,100 on Monday.

Teen's affection for his mom causes discomfort in public

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am concerned about my nephew. His whole life he has lovingly hugged and kissed on his mother. It was cute when he was a toddler, but now he's a teenager, and he continues to drape himself on her and hug and kiss her on the cheek—at home and in public. She does not discourage it. I don't know if my brother-in-law has noticed it, or if he just chooses not to see.

I have mentioned this to my sister before, but she told me I'm too critical. We were in line at the store and I heard people behind us react with audible sighs when they saw the behavior. I am uncomfortable around them. Others have told me that the affection seems excessive.

How can I help? I'm afraid there's a problem brewing that needs to be addressed now.

ALARMED IN APPLE VALLEY

DEAR ALARMED: From my perspective your nephew appears to be a sweet, affectionate young man who is close to his mother. There is an old French saying that translates, "Evil be he who thinks evil of it." In other words, you may be mistaking the dirt on your glasses for a relationship that is "off-color," so please reserve judgment.

DEAR ABBY: I lost my wife of 10 years after a long battle with cancer. I am 50 and have a 10-year-old son. If it wasn't for raising my son, I don't think I'd even want to live anymore, but the good Lord gave me this job, and I want to make sure I do it well.

It is very lonely at times without a woman around. When I do get out and meet women 40 to 50 years old and they hear I have a spoiled kid at home, they turn away. I know at my age I should be a grandpa. Is there any chance for me to find another lasting love to spend the rest of my life with? I never thought I would ever lose my wife; I thought we'd be together forever.

BETWEEN LOST AND FOUND

DEAR BETWEEN: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your wife. Of course there's a chance for you to find love again. Right now you're feeling down because life has dealt you a difficult hand.

Plenty of women would find you attractive, and not be turned off by the fact that you are raising a son. I'm talking about single women with children of their own to raise. You can meet them at your nearest chapter of Parents Without Partners. To find one, call (800) 637-7974 or visit www.parentswithoutpartners.org.

DEAR ABBY: As a child care provider for a local program in my hometown, I am often treated differently because I am a male.

If women can do anything men can—including the same job—shouldn't the opposite be true? Do you think society will ever completely accept male teachers and child care workers?

PAUL FROM PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PAUL: I hope so, because men are certainly capable of nurturing—particularly those of the recent generation, who are far more involved in co-parenting than men were before the 1960s.

Male teachers and child care workers can give fatherless children something that female teachers cannot—a male role model with whom they can identify.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



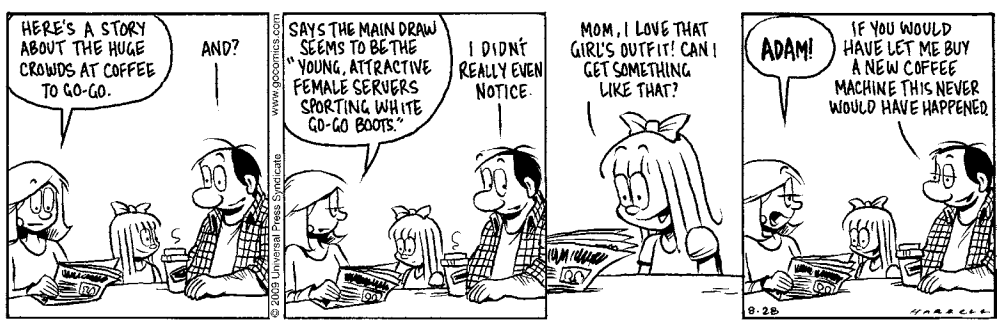
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



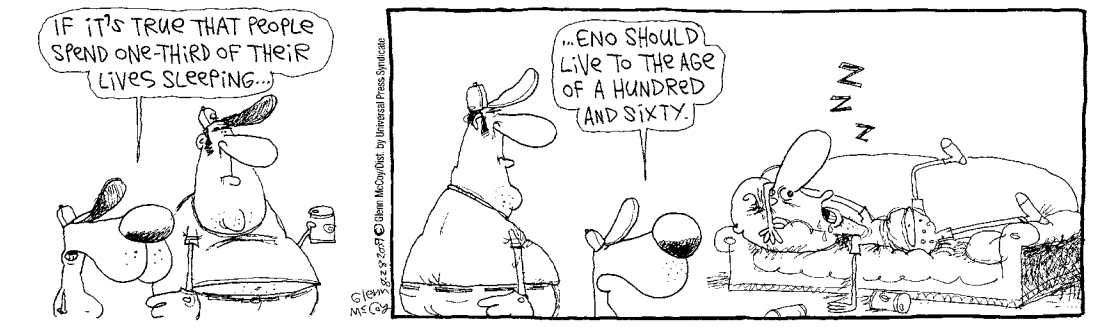
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Brother of Dubya
4 Boast
8 King's defender
12 Foreman foe
13 Barrett or Jaffe
14 Curved molding
15 Big numbers
17 Retirement funds, for short
18 Clover piece
19 Despots
20 It's for mass consumption
22 Reverberate
24 Uncontrollable
25 Pomp
29 Solidify
30 Hymn
31 Actress Thurman
32 Supported
34 Highlander
35 Ahs' mates
36 Tea variety
37 They get in the whey
40 Zinger
41 Ellipse
42 Program
46 Chromosome part
47 Relaxation
48 Meadow
49 Droops
50 Liniment target
51 Yule fuel

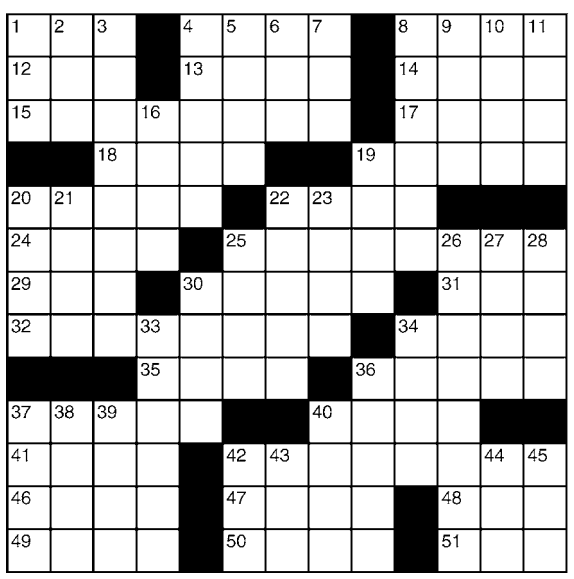
DOWN

1 Poke
2 Yale student
3 Wallet
4 Pipe type
5 Santa's runway
6 Landers or Curry
7 Petrol
8 Toxic substance
9 Taj Mahal city
10 Have on
11 Loch — Monster
16 Welsh veggie
19 Subsequently
20 Carry on
21 Churchly cry
22 Blunted blades
23 Dressed
25 Obi
26 Platypus feature
27 "Typee" sequel
28 Assessment
30 Experts
33 A lot
34 Belgrade resident
36 Lottery winner, e.g.
37 Gear teeth
38 Eye layer
39 Pealed
40 Wild party
42 Royal insomnia cause
43 Varnish ingredient
44 Zodiac feline
45 Trail the pack

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	H	A	G	■	H	A	S	■	P	O	P	E
L	O	C	I	■	A	C	T	■	A	V	O	W
A	P	E	R	■	V	E	E	■	P	E	T	E
V	I	R	A	G	O	■	T	O	U	R	■	■
■	■	■	F	A	C	E	S	F	A	C	T	S
U	N	I	F	Y	■	D	O	T	■	O	A	T
S	A	N	E	■	P	I	N	■	D	A	N	A
A	D	E	■	P	I	T	■	G	U	T	S	Y
F	A	X	M	A	C	H	I	N	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	P	A	W	N	■	B	U	L	L	E	T
T	I	E	S	■	I	D	S	■	I	O	T	A
W	O	R	K	■	C	U	E	■	S	C	A	B
O	U	T	S	■	S	O	N	■	T	O	S	S

Yesterday's answer 8-28



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: LeAnn Rimes, 27; Carly Pope, 29; Jason Priestley, 40; Shania Twain, 44

Happy Birthday: You are perceptive and can make positive changes at home that will help you resolve pending issues and revamp your lifestyle. You will not please everyone this year but, as long as you don't lose ground taking care of matters, you will come out on top, ready to forge ahead. Welcome change and new beginnings. Your numbers are 2, 7, 16, 20, 28, 33, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Spice things up a little and you will be motivated to go ahead with plans, ideas and interesting deals. Challenge yourself to take on a task that seems impossible and you will excel and create a stir. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't delve into the negative when being accommodating will get you so much further ahead. Discussing your intentions with a positive spin and a little finesse will win you points and interest in your plans. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't get down, get moving. Emotional challenges may be difficult but they will help you discover where, how and what you lack in order to reach your goals. Use your personal appeal to bring about dynamic and pleasing results. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Stop before you end up in a mess too big to clean up. Getting upset and taking a rash course of action will backfire. Keep your thoughts to yourself and do a little private investigative work. Time is on your side. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You can take a chance on something that has been unreachable to you in the past. A new attitude will open a door that you have wanted to pursue for a long time. Your upbeat personality will generate the kind of action you are looking for. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't share your secrets or give people too much information. You have to maintain a certain amount of intrigue if you want to hold everyone's interest. Let things unfold naturally. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take part in whatever interests you and you will make new friends, leading to greater involvement in something you find pleasurable. Don't let a challenge discourage you from taking part. Rise to the occasion. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You may have to make a few adjustments to please some of the more difficult people in your life. A financial plan will enable you to put some of your current goals into play, working toward increasing your income. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't be fooled by what you are being told. Becoming entrapped in someone's emotional games will lead to a costly mistake. Look at the situation logically and you will know how and who to compensate in order to get what you want. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Separate your emotions from any financial or legal matter that you face. Don't let someone get the better of you because you have feelings for that person. You must look out for your interests and refuse to give more than you can afford. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You'll have plenty of choices but choosing the one that's best for you may be difficult. Rely on your own instincts to lead you in the right direction. A viable partnership will lead to financial gain. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You may have to be secretive regarding your plans if you want to avoid criticism and complaints. You don't have to change course but you do need to proceed with caution and deal with people you can trust. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have a mind of your own and a will to go with it. You are creative and forward-thinking and have earned the respect and admiration that goes along with set goals and achievements.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9	2						1	
			6		5			
	7				8	3		
	5	8				9		
7								8
		2				6	3	
		4	1				8	
			5		6			
	3						2	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	3	8	9	2	5	6	7
5	7	2	6	4	1	3	9	8
8	9	6	7	5	3	1	2	4
3	4	9	1	8	5	2	7	6
2	8	1	4	7	6	9	3	5
6	5	7	3	2	9	4	8	1
1	3	8	2	6	4	7	5	9
7	2	5	9	1	8	6	4	3
9	6	4	5	3	7	8	1	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/27

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ARCHIE IS GETTING MARRIED **Solution: 6 letters**

R	R	M	J	D	I	L	T	O	N	O	S	A	M	J
I	E	E	U	A	N	I	M	A	T	I	O	N	A	C
V	I	D	G	S	L	A	R	C	H	I	E	S	O	O
E	G	R	H	N	T	O	L	E	S	O	O	M	C	O
R	G	C	E	E	I	A	P	T	P	N	I	I	T	P
D	E	V	A	G	A	S	N	Y	O	C	M	D	R	E
A	R	E	D	R	N	D	G	G	T	C	O	G	I	R
L	L	R	B	L	T	I	E	S	T	L	S	E	A	F
E	C	O	U	R	R	O	G	D	Y	J	S	L	N	R
A	H	N	P	L	E	G	O	R	T	L	O	D	G	E
H	U	I	S	E	U	H	E	N	T	V	L	N	L	D
C	C	C	R	M	Z	H	Ⓣ	Ⓔ	Ⓔ	Ⓝ	B	M	E	Y
I	K	A	A	A	C	S	Y	A	B	A	N	D	D	S
M	A	D	A	R	M	A	R	Y	E	L	T	N	A	M
S	T	R	O	P	S	E	T	A	D	W	A	L	D	O

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Adam, Andy, Animation, Archies, Band, Betty, Blossom, Cars, Cartoon, Cheryl, Chuck, Comic, Cooper, Dates, Dilton, Fred, Ginger, Girls, Hiram, Jalopy, Jason, Jones, Jughead, Lodge, Lopez, Love, Mantle, Mary, Mason, Michael, Midge, Moose, Muggs, Mustang, Redheaded, Reggie, Riverdale, Scotland, Singer, Sports, Spotty, Teen, Triangle, Veronica, Waldo, Weatherbee

Yesterday's Answer: Pioneers

We listened to your requests! TREASURY #6 is the first-ever Wonderword book containing only 20 x 20 puzzles, with 75 of these large puzzles. To order, send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 p&h ($14.20 total) each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Wonderword, Universal Press Syndicate, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-3714

LOST DOG



RIZZO, A BLACK AND BEIGE COLORED MALE DOG WITH FADED BLUE COLLAR AROUND HIS NECK, LEFT HOME IN **DAN DAN** 27 DAYS NOW.

IF YOU HAVE SEEN RIZZO OR HAVE RESCUED HIM, KINDLY CALL PETE AT **233-2322** OR **483-3027**. RIZZO MAY HAVE LOST WEIGHT BY NOW.

A REWARD WILL BE GIVEN FOR YOUR KINDNESS TO HELP RIZZO COME BACK HOME TO THE FAMILY. HE WILL BE VERY HAPPY. THANK YOU.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA

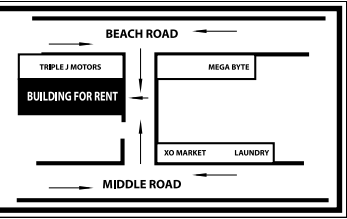
FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

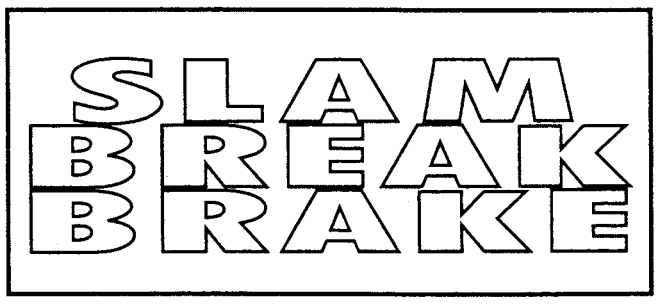
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3,000sqf @ 800.00 only
Concrete, Good Location For
Warehouse, Autoshop, Office, etc.
Contact Ivan @ 285-9966
8:00 am - 6:00 pm



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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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Find today's solution in this section

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
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E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com Website:cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening date: August 14, 2009 **Closing date:** August 28, 2009

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

1 (one) Deputy Comptroller

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more that six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, August 28, 2009.***

Minimum Qualifications:

Deputy Comptroller: A Masters Degree in Accounting or related field from an accredited US college or university with no less than two (2) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional accounting level; Bachelors Degree candidate must posses no less than six (6) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional accounting level of which three (2) years pertain to supervisory experience; Associates Degree candidates must posses eight (8) years of experience in accounting of which three (4) years pertain to supervisory experience.

This position is on a fast track for Comptroller. Accordingly emphasis will be given to applicants who have advanced degrees or are CPA candidates.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact the Executive Director by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PSS RFP 09-020

MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION SERVICES FOR THE PSS HEAD START PROGRAM

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms interested in providing Mental Health Consultation Services for the Public School System's Head Start Program. Detailed information on the scope of work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

Proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-020" containing (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than September 8, 2009 at 10 A.M. Any proposal submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Kathleen Keiko Yamagata, Head Start Program Director via fax to 670.664.3760 or e-mail to keikoyamagata74@yahoo.com.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 09-021

Public School System Media Services

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms to help write, edit and layout the monthly PSS news, assist in drafting weekly press releases and develop a quarterly newsletter.

Beginning August 28, 2009, the Scope of Work and related information is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950. Requests faxed to 664.3791 will also be entertained.

A Pre-Proposal Meeting will be held at 10:00 AM, September 16, 2009 in the Commissioner of Education's Conference Room on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Proposals shall be placed in a sealed envelope face marked **"RFP 09-021 - Media Services"** containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than 10:30 AM on September 23, 2009. Any proposal received after this date and time will not be accepted.

Questions shall be in writing and addressed to Tim Thornburgh, Federal Programs Officer, via fax to 664.3767 or e-mailed to thornburght@gmail.com.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
P&S Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

NMHC

NOTICE OF AUCTION
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, hereinafter referred to as NMHC, as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all of the rights, title, and interests of the following described real property situated in **Garapan**, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 003 D 16 (Formerly Block 1 Lot 16), as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat Number 003 D 00 dated February 19, 1971, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry on the 1st day of March, 1971, as Document No. 869, and containing an area of 1,022 square meters, more or less, together with the improvements and fixtures located thereon and therein and the appurtenances and all the rights, title, and interest of, in, and to the land lying in all streets, highways, and rights of ways abutting on or appurtenant to said premises.

Minimum Bid: The minimum bid for the property mentioned above in this notice shall be **$100,000.00**.

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on **Friday, September 11, 2009**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
2. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, auctioneer and seller shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
3. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Mr. Vicente T. Salas, Esq., P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-7455; Facsimile: 234-7256.
4. Deposit: Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) calendar days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC.
5. Change of Terms: Auctioneer and NMHC reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
6. Inspection and No Warranty: Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact NMHC for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2009.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO, Corporate Director

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

NMHC

NOTICE OF AUCTION
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, hereinafter referred to as NMHC, as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all of the rights, title, and interests of the following described real property situated in **San Jose**, Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 006 T 201, as shown on Drawing / Cadastral Plat Number 006 T 06, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document Number 18302, on the 28th day of September, 1983, and containing an area of 1,000 square meters, more or less, together with the improvements and fixtures located thereon and therein and the appurtenances and all the rights, title, and interest of, in, and to the land lying in all streets, highways, and rights of ways abutting on or appurtenant to said premises.

Minimum Bid: The minimum bid for the property mentioned above in this notice shall be **$150,000.00**.

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on **Friday, September 11, 2009**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
2. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, auctioneer and seller shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
3. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Mr. Vicente T. Salas, Esq., P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-7455; Facsimile: 234-7256.
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Dated this 6th day of August, 2009.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO, Corporate Director

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Ortiz homers in Red Sox win over White Sox



AP

Boston Red Sox's David Ortiz follows through on his game-winning home run against the Chicago White Sox in the ninth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009. Boston won 3-2.

BOSTON (AP) -- David Ortiz hit his second homer of the game to break a ninth-inning tie and give the Boston Red Sox a 3-2 victory over the Chicago White Sox in the American League on Wednesday.

It was Ortiz's 10th career game-ending homer and franchise-record ninth with the Red Sox. Hall of Famer Jimmie Foxx had eight.

All-Star Tim Wakefield pitched seven strong innings in his return from the disabled list, but the 43-year-old knuckleballer was deprived of a win when Jayson Nix homered off reliever Ramon Ramirez to make it 2-2 in the eighth.

Yankees 9, Rangers 2

At New York, Jorge Posada hit a three-run homer and Andy Pettitte finally gave New York a quality pitching performance in a win over Texas.

Derek Jeter and Mark Teixeira both drove in two runs, and Jerry Hairston Jr. added a solo homer for the Yankees, who have scored at least eight runs in four of their last five games.

Pettitte (11-6) allowed two runs and five hits over seven innings to win his third straight decision. The crisp performance came after New York pitchers had surrendered 39 runs on 52 hits over the last four games, including a 10-9 loss to the Rangers in the series opener.

Blue Jays 3, Rays 2

At Toronto, Marco Scutaro scored the winning run for Toronto on a wild pitch after Tampa Bay closer J.P. Howell loaded the bases with three walks.

Rod Barajas hit a tying pinch-hit homer off Howell (6-4) with one out in the ninth. After walking three and with rookie Randy Ruiz up, Howell uncorked a wild pitch that bounced high and away from catcher Gregg Zaun. It was Howell's seventh blown save.

Brandon League (2-5) worked one inning for the win.

It was a tough night to be a home plate umpire. Crew chief Jerry Crawford took a foul ball off his face mask and left after two innings while his replacement, Tom Hallion, was struck in the chest by a pitch from Rays lefty Scott Kazmir in the sixth.

Orioles 5, Twins 1

At Minneapolis, Jeremy Guthrie pitched seven easy innings and Felix Pie homered as Baltimore ended Minnesota's season-high five-game winning streak.

Guthrie (9-12) won his second straight start, allowing six hits and one run.

Twins starter Nick Blackburn (8-9) let No. 9 hitter and backup catcher Chad Moeller reach three times on a walk, a single and a double. He was 8-4 with a 3.06 ERA before the All-Star break.

Angels 4, Tigers 2

At Anaheim, California, Torii Hunter's early two-run homer helped Los Angeles end a three-game losing streak with a victory over Detroit.

Kendry Morales and Chone Figgins added run-scoring hits for Los Angeles, the only major league club without four straight losses. The AL West-leading Angels also avoided being swept at home for the first time since June 2007 and prevented Detroit's first road sweep of the Angels since August 1993.

Indians 4, Royals 2

At Kansas City, Missouri, Grady Sizemore scored three times to help Cleveland Indians beat Kansas City.

Sizemore reached base four times after a day off, scoring in the first, third and fifth innings to put Cleveland up 3-2. Matt LaPorta hit his second homer of the season in the sixth off Luke Hochevar (6-7) and Jamey Carroll had three hits to give Indians pitcher David Huff (8-7) all the support he needed.

Mariners 5, Athletics 3

At Seattle, Jose Lopez homered, newly acquired Bill Hall drove in two runs and Luke French won his third game in four decisions as a Mariner.

Relievers Miguel Batista, Mark Lowe, and David Aardsma kept Oakland scoreless over the final 4 1-3 innings as Seattle swept a series for the first time since June 19-21, against Arizona.

Lopez's 19th home run was a two-run shot in the first off Gio Gonzalez. Hall singled in the third to score Jack Hannahan, who had doubled.

Dodgers 6, Rockies 1

At Denver, Andre Ethier hit two of Los Angeles' three home runs to power the Dodgers past the Colorado 6-1 on Wednesday, restoring their lead over the Rockies in the National League West to three games.

The Rockies, who had won eight of 10, were trying to move within a game of Dodgers, a team they trailed by 15 1/2 games on June 3. The three-game series ends Wednesday.

Colorado had posted four straight come-from-behind wins, including a 5-4 victory in 10 innings in the series opener.

Phillies 4, Pirates 1, 10 innings

At Pittsburgh, Ryan Howard hit a three-run home run in the 10th inning after Philadelphia's bullpen blew yet another lead to Pittsburgh.

The Phillies, winning their 13th of 16 games, led 1-0 going into the ninth but the Pirates tied it on their first pinch-hit homer of the season, by Brandon Moss against Ryan Madson. Philadelphia didn't use closer Brad Lidge, who blew his ninth save of the season on Tuesday, surrendering rookie Andrew McCutchen's game-ending, two-run homer.

Cardinals 3, Astros 2

At St. Louis, Joel Pineiro worked eight strong innings to win his seventh straight decision as St. Louis jumped on Houston's Roy Oswalt early.

Pineiro (13-9) allowed two runs and seven hits and Mark DeRosa's two-run double capped a three-run first for the NL Central leaders, who are 15-3 in their last 18 games. Matt Holliday added an RBI single and Albert Pujols had two hits after entering the game 5 for 33 against Houston this season.

Marlins 5, Mets 3

At Miami, Josh Johnson gave up three runs and nine hits in six innings but remained undefeated against New York.

Johnson (13-3) trailed early but improved to 7-0 with an ERA of 2.30 in nine career starts against the Mets, who lost their fifth straight, and their disabled list grew to 13 players when pitcher Oliver Perez was sidelined with a season-ending knee injury.

Three relievers combined for three scoreless innings, with Leo Nunez pitching the ninth for his 16th save.

Padres 12, Braves 5

At Atlanta, San Diego had a six-run sixth inning before Kevin Kouzmanoff finished off Atlanta with a two-run homer.

The last-place Padres won their second straight over the Braves. On Thursday, San Diego will go for its first series sweep since taking three games from the Chicago Cubs on May 22-24.

Atlanta's Brian McCann hit a three-run homer off Tim Stauffer (2-6) in the first inning.

Cubs 9, Nationals 4

At Chicago, Milton Bradley homered and had three RBIS and Chicago scored six runs in the eighth inning to beat Washington.

Bradley hit a two-run homer in the third and broke a 2-2 tie in the seventh with a run-scoring groundout off reliever Jason Bergmann (2-3).

Koyie Hill and Derrek Lee had two-run doubles and Mike Fontenot added an RBI double off Jorge Sosa in the eighth when the Cubs batted around.

Reds 4, Brewers 3

At Milwaukee, Pinch-hitter Darnell McDonald hit an RBI double to drive in the winning run in the 10th inning, and the Cincinnati Reds beat the Milwaukee Brewers 4-3 on Wednesday night.

McDonald, who threw out Ryan Braun trying to score the winning run in the ninth Tuesday night, hit a liner that Braun in left field misjudged.

Wladimir Balentien hit a ground-rule double past diving right fielder Jody Gerut off Mike Burns (3-5), the fifth Brewer reliever, with one out in the 10th.

Giants 4, Diamondbacks 3

At San Francisco, pinch-hitter Bengie Molina hit a three-run home run in the eighth inning and the San Francisco Giants rallied for a 4-3 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks on Wednesday night.

Juan Uribe also homered for the Giants, who won their second straight.

Ryan Roberts homered for the Diamondbacks, who lost for the ninth time in 10 games. Gerardo Parra had two hits and drive in a run.

Ryan chooses rookie Sanchez as Jets starting quarterback

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)—The future is now for the new face of the New York Jets, Mark Sanchez.

Sanchez was selected as the team's starting quarterback by coach Rex Ryan on Wednesday, making him the first rookie slated to open a season under center for the Jets.

"This comes with a lot of responsibility," a beaming Sanchez said. "As happy as I am, I know that this is just the beginning and I'm just excited, really excited, to get to play with such great players."

The fifth overall draft pick out of Southern California beat out Kellen Clemens for the job and will make his regular-season debut at Houston on Sept. 13.

"This is something I've always wanted to do and dreams are coming true now," Sanchez said. "It's a special opportunity."

Ryan, who made the announcement after practice, said early in training camp he'd like to make a decision on a starter by the Jets' third preseason game.

"I think Mark gives us the best opportunity to win," Ryan said, "and I think that's what I owe this franchise."

The Jets' next preseason game is Saturday night against the Giants.

Sanchez replaces Brett Favre as the starter after generally showing poise and solid decision-making skills during training camp.

Ryan met with Sanchez and Clemens on Wednesday morning and told them of his choice.

"I'm glad the decision was made earlier rather than later," said Clemens, who added he thought the competition was fair.

The last time a rookie started a season for the franchise was in 1960, when Dick Jamieson quarterbacked the then-Titans. Joe Namath didn't start until the third game of his rookie season in 1965. Matt Robinson was the last rookie quarterback to start a game for the Jets in 1977.

"I feel very comfortable and confident in my decision," Ryan said.

Sanchez won't have an easy welcome to the NFL, though, facing a tough Texans defense in the opener, followed by home games against New England and Tennessee.

Sanchez struggled early in his start at Baltimore in a preseason game Monday night, but threw a touchdown pass to Leon Washington to cap his final series. Sanchez was 3-for-8 for 43 yards and had an interception—his first pass of the game—returned for a touchdown.

Woods pulls his weight as PGA Tour playoffs begin

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)—No matter what players think of the golf course, Liberty National gets universal praise for its intimate view of the Manhattan skyline and the Statue of Liberty, so close to the shore she looks as if she could tend a flag on the green.

Equally impressive is the view of Tiger Woods suited up for the opening of the PGA Tour Playoffs.

Woods has not played The Barclays in six years, and this will be the first time he competes in all four of the playoff events for the FedEx Cup. At a time when PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem is asking players to do more for sponsors in a tough economy, the world's No. 1 player is pulling his weight.

"Tiger Woods playing is really good," Geoff Ogilvy said. "He's been very good for golf lately, not just because of the TV ratings, but he's playing a lot more. Our tour is always better when he's here. Golf is getting spoiled."

Golf went eight months without Woods as he recovered from knee surgery. Now it can't get rid of him.

The Barclays, which gets under way Thursday, is part of a nine-week stretch in which Woods will be playing seven times. He hasn't played that much in such a short period since the end of the 2006 season, when he missed nine weeks because of his father's death.



Tiger Woods stretches before teeing off on the 13th hole during a practice round for The Barclays golf tournament on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009, at Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, N.J.

Asked why he was playing this year, Woods replied, "I qualified."

That he did, winning five times in 13 starts to be the top seed among 125 players who qualified for this $65 million bonanza at the end of the year—a $7.5 million purse at each of the four events, with $35 million in bonus money for the FedEx Cup.

The points system has been tweaked to put more emphasis on the eight months that comprise the regular season, with quintuple the value of points during the playoff events, then a reset of the points that allows for a shootout at the Tour Championship for the $10 million prize.

Woods could have skipped The Barclays and won the FedEx Cup, as he did in 2007. He learned Wednesday that it was possible for him to win the next three tournaments, finish second at the Tour Championship and not capture the FedEx Cup. Or that someone could win the big prize without having won a single tournament this year.

"It is different, there's no doubt," he said. "But then again, this is what we're playing for. This is our opportunity to play well. You play well at the right time, you should be all right."

Whether the system works to everyone's satisfaction this year, the playoffs is off to a solid start, mainly because Woods is playing.

"It's great that everyone is here," Steve Stricker said. "It gets this off on the right foot."

For Woods, it is a continuation of quiet support.

In March, he hosted 16 chief executives of companies that sponsor the PGA Tour for lunch and golf at Isleworth, some of them trying to decide whether to renew contracts. After the second round at Firestone this month, Woods hopped into a cart and headed for a meeting with sponsors.

"Corporate duty," he said with a smile.

He played the Buick Open, even though his endorsement contract with the automaker ended late last year. That meant playing three straight weeks, the final tournament being a major, and Woods said Wednesday that being in contention three straight weeks—two victories and blowing a two-shot lead at the PGA Championship to Y.E. Yang - took its toll.

And now The Barclays.

"I think we have to support the tour, especially in this economy right now," Woods said. "That's one of the reasons why I played Flint, to show my support and my 'thank you' to Buick, and a lot of guys did the same thing. ... And certainly, Barclays has been just a great sponsor over the year, and hopefully, they will continue and we can continue building the partnership."

MWA invited to China by local walking group

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Marianas Walking Association has been invited to visit China this November by the China Volkssport Association.

The occasion: The 5th IVV Walking Guilin Zhaoqing Convention set from Nov. 10 to 16, 2009.

CVA said all the cost in Guilin and Zhaoqing—including accommodation, dinner, and sightseeing—will be paid by the group. However, other expense in China, such as international tickets to Guilin and back to Saipan should be paid by MWA.

According to travel guides, Guilin is characterized by its rich tourism resources and is famous for its beautiful scenery.

It is situated in the northeast of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on the west bank of the Li River.

Its name means "Forest of Sweet Osmanthus," owing to the large number of fragrant Sweet Osmanthus trees located in the city. The city has long been renowned for its unique scenery.

In an email to MWA, CVA said mayors of Guilin and Zhaoqing cities are looking forward to meeting delegates from MWA.

"At the IVV walking event. It is a great and important chance to promote IVV and CVA activities. We also hope that you can organize members to come and visit," their email read.

If MWA accepts the invitation, they will arrive at Beijing, China on Nov. 9 and then take a plane or train to Guilin and arrive there on Nov. 10.

Delegates from Saipan will then attend the opening ceremony, go sightseeing, and then enjoy the welcome banquet prepared by the government from Nov. 10 to 16.

MWA, then known as SAIWAI, was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on July 27, 2001 and was established to promote public health through non-competitive walking. It changed its name last year so it could encompass the neighboring islands of Tinian and Rota.

RGA August Ace Sunday at MCC



The Refaluwasch Golf Association will be holding the August Ace tournament this Sunday at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi.

Check-in time is 11am, while tee off is at 12nn. The tournament is open to the first 16 RGA members to register for the day.

Participants in this weekend's tournament must score better than 63 to take the monthly plum away from Jesse Seman.

Seman set the score to beat for this month's Ace after ruling the RGA qualifying tournament on Aug. 15, also at MCC. The 8-handicapper tamed the Marpi course with his even par 36 on the front nines and a 1-under par 35 on the back. His gross 1-under par 71 tied the day's best score and beat eight others in the net score category. Seman completed his domination of the tournament, winning the closest to the pin contests on holes No. 6 and 12.

Meanwhile, RGA tournament director Jess Wabol is reminding monthly Ace winners to complete the required number of tournaments for the club championships.

Ace winners can only participate in the 2009 RGA Club Championships if they competed in at least six RGA-sanctioned tournaments or qualifying events.

For more information about RGA tournaments, contact Jordon Kosam at 483-4506 or Wabol at 288-1129. (***PR***)



Asterio Tawanpiy, an RGA member, is seen here making a tee shot in a local tournament. RGA members will play this weekend at the Marianas Country Club for the August Ace title.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

FERNANDEZ

From Page 36

to squeeze out a 6-4 win.

The other semis pairing was also decided in three sets with Daulaca stunning Guttersberger, 6-1, 4-6, 6-1.

In the battle for third place, Fernandez avenged her first-round loss to Guttersberger after pulling off a hard earned win in three sets, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1.

In the Girls Seniors Melody Johnson and Theecel Minor placed seventh and ninth, respectively.

Johnson finished third in Pool B with a 3-2 record and was one step away from advancing to the semifinals. She won her last pool play game against Palau's Abigail Gbewonyo, 6-2, 6-2, but a Steffi Guttersberger victory over Shawn Adams, 6-4, 6-3, booted out the CNMI bet in the semis. Had Guttersberger lost, Johnson would have forced a tie for second place.

With luck not on her side, Johnson was relegated to the consolation draw and defeated Adams in the battle for seventh place, 7-6, 6-4. Minor, who was in Pool A, also prevailed in her consolation game against American Samoa's Angie Roberts, 6-1, 6-2.

In the Boys Seniors, Benjie Decena's strong start in the tournament ended in disappointment, as he finished only fourth.

Decena swept his first four games in Pool B before losing to Fiji's Kunal Singh on Tuesday, 6-2, 7-5. However, despite the loss, Decena still finished on top of his pool and was paired against American Samoa's Chris Sami in the semis.

The Tinian-based Decena won the opening set, 6-1, but loss the next two, 4-6, 1-6, to drop to the consolation match. Decena never recovered from that defeat, as he also lost the battle for third place against Pool A top seed Elias Tukarao of the Cook Islands, 6-2, 5-7, 2-6.

Rafael Jones and Christian Miller were also entered in the Boys Seniors and finished ninth and 10th, respectively. Jones topped the Cook Islands' Fred Pickering, 6-4, 6-4, while Miller won over Fiji's John Morove, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2. Jones and Miller dueled for the ninth and 10th place with the former winning in straight sets, 6-1, 7-5.

CNMI

From Page 36

the CNMI, which is competing in its first international tournament. The South Koreans found the back of the next 11 times in the first half and added eight more goals to complete its demolition of the Commonwealth.

The win was South Korea's second shutout victory. South Korea also blanked Guam in its first game on Monday, 9-0. The top-ranked South Koreans and host Chinese-Taipei have identical 2-0 records, but the former is currently in first place in the team standings with its two-game total of 28 goals.

Chinese-Taipei so far has scored 18 goals after its 10-1 win over Guam and 8-1 triumph over Hong Kong. The former British Colony has a 1-1 record and has earned 11 goals.

Guam, which topped the CNMI, 5-1, during the tournament's opening day on Saturday, is in fourth place with a 1-2 record and five goals.

The tournament has two more playing days before its final round. Today, the CNMI will take on Chinese-Taipei in the first game at 4:30pm (6:30pm on Saipan), while Hong Kong will challenge the undefeated South Korea in the second game at 7pm.

Tomorrow will be the last day of the round robin with Guam dueling Hong Kong and Korea facing Chinese-Taipei.

The winner of the tournament will advance to the East Asian Football Federation Women's Football Championship 2010 Championship Competition in Tokyo, Japan next year and play Japan, China, and North Korea.

SONICS

From Page 36

The Sonics deep bench proved to be too much for Ol'Aces, who had only five players making it to the scoreboard.

Trevor Ogumoro had 11, while Wes Tomokane finished with seven markers. Luther Taylor and Damian Deleon Guerrero tallied four markers apiece, while Kevin Deleon Guerrero added two.

Brian Ajoste paced the Sonics with his 14 points, while Tristan Ecalnea nailed nine, and Adrian Palacios and John Paul Villanueva chipped in six each. Five other Sonics players contributed at least two points.

Dae Won Jeon started Sonics' second-half breakaway with back-to-back baskets. An undergoal stab from Tristan Ecalnea made it a 6-0 run before Deleon Guerrero's layup gave Ol'Aces their first two points in the second half.

However, Ajoste and Palacios answered with a quick 8-0 run to pad the Sonics lead en route to a 23-point victory.

With the win, the Sonics joined the Sixers and the Sixers for the early lead in the 12-team field. Ol'Aces dropped to the loser's bracket along with the Chalan Kanoa Saints and Celtics.

Meanwhile, Rollers 1 and 3 were schedule to debut in the 18-and-under caging against Hi-5 and the Runnin' Rebels, respectively. Today, the Sparks will duel Rollers 2.

Sonics 51 – Ajoste 14, Ecalnea 9, Palacios 6, Villanueva 6, Dae W. Jeon 4, Norita 4, Dae M. Jeon 2, Salas 2, Darag 2, Sula 1.

Ol'Aces 28 – Ogumoro 11, Tomokane 7, Taylor 4, Deleon Guerrero 4, De Leon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-14, 51-28.

TOUGH

From Page 36

match which was held in a secret place because it was illegal. Here's what we know.

The fight was held on a hill with a hastily constructed ring. Rounds under London prize ring rules were not the three minutes of today's boxing; they were when someone went to the floor, either voluntarily or not. Some rounds were only a few seconds because Kilrain would drop to one knee. Still the fight lasted two hours and sixteen minutes which is unheard of today. Plus the fight took place outside under a boiling Mississippi sun, not in an air-conditioned arena.

Sullivan vomited in the 44th round because his handlers had mixed whiskey into his tea after the 43rd round. His trainer said Sullivan "threw up the tea and kept down the whiskey."

Kilrain was estimated to have drunk a quart of whiskey during the fight.

In the end Kilrain suffered 24 knockdowns, 7 throw-downs (wrestling was allowed) and 6 shove-downs, and took a knee 26 times. The New York Times reported he left the ring "crying like a child."

I've never heard of another fight with 24 knockdowns but then I never heard of a 75 round or two hour fight either.

What kind of guys were they? What kind of rough and tough world did they live in? How would they fare today in, say, MMA? Could today's fighters last that long? They never fight longer than about fifteen minutes and three rounds, and by the end are usually spent and exhausted.

Topps issued UFC trading cards for the first time in 2009. Will someone, say a hundred years from now, look at a UFC 100 card and wonder how Brock Lesnar vs. Frank Mir could be so brutal and furious?

I can only imagine. It's hard to believe that someone will look back and feel nostalgic about these times. Unless of course it's memorialized on the back of a trading card.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	79	47	.627	_
Boston	73	53	.579	6
Tampa Bay	69	57	.548	10
Toronto	58	67	.464	20 1/2
Baltimore	52	75	.400	27 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	67	59	.532	_
Chicago	63	64	.496	4 1/2
Minnesota	63	64	.496	4 1/2
Cleveland	56	70	.444	11
Kansas City	48	78	.381	19

West Division

Los Angeles	75	50	.600	_
Texas	70	55	.560	4
Seattle	66	61	.520	10
Oakland	55	71	.437	19

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	73	51	.589	_
Florida	67	59	.532	7
Atlanta	66	60	.524	8
New York	57	70	.449	17 1/2
Washington	45	82	.354	29 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	74	54	.578	_
Chicago	63	61	.508	9
Houston	61	65	.484	12
Milwaukee	61	65	.484	12
Pittsburgh	54	71	.432	18 1/2
Cincinnati	52	72	.419	20

West Division

Los Angeles	75	52	.591	_
Colorado	72	55	.567	3
San Francisco	69	58	.543	6
Arizona	55	72	.433	20
San Diego	54	74	.422	21 1/2

Boston 3, Chi Sox 2
NY Yankees 9, Texas 2
Toronto 3, Tampa Bay 2
Baltimore 5, Minnesota 1
LA Angels 4, Detroit 2
Cleveland 4, Kansas City 2
LA Dodgers 2, Colorado 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis 3, Houston 2
Florida 5, NY Mets 2
San Diego 12, Atlanta 5
Chi Cubs 5, Washington 4
Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3
San Francisco 4, Arizona 3

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

IT&E Inter-Gov't/ Biz League Standings

IT&E	4	0
MBI	3	1
PSS	3	2
CHC	2	1
Docomo	2	1
BOG	2	3
Hyatt	1	0
DCCA	1	1
Tinian	1	1
Customs	0	2
CPA	0	3
ARFF	0	4

Rotary Standings

G-Stars	1	0
Sixers	1	0
Sonics	1	0
Celtics	0	1
Saints	0	1
Ol'Aces	0	1
Rollers 1	0	0
Rollers 2	0	0
Rollers 3	0	0
Hi-5	0	0
Runnin' Rebels	0	0
Sparks	0	0

BoG, PSS gain second straight victory

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Bank of Guam and Public School System started their first streak in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League after recording contrasting wins on Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

After dropping its first three games, BoG made it two in a row, following a 91-79 victory over Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighters. BoG claimed its first win last week after routing Customs, 90-64.

The McGraw-Hill-supported PSS was inconsistent with its first four games, but a 64-59 triumph over Commonwealth Health Center gave the former its second straight win. Last week, PSS prevailed over CPA-Accounting, 70-66.

The loss was CHC's first in three games. CHC debuted in the 12-team league with a 76-54 win over ARFF and then improved to a 2-0 record after outclassing Micronesian Brokers, Inc., 70-66.

However, CHC's winning streak was snapped, as PSS outplayed them in the second half.

CHC led at halftime, 29-27, behind the outside sniping of Edgar Pangelinan. Pangelinan continued to drill long jumpers in the second half, but his one-man job was not enough to keep CHC's record clean.

In contrast, PSS had a balance scoring and deep bench in the second half. Peter Mendiola and Bobby Coldeen led the attack and they drew help from Walter Mendez, Gyles Ruluked, and Derrick Aughenbaugh to put PSS in the lead at the end of the third period, 44-41.

In the fourth quarter, it was Patrick Guerrero and Maverick Itibus' turn to help Mendiola and Coldeen to preserve PSS's lead and halt CHC's run.

Mendiola top-scored for PSS with 16 points, while Coldeen chipped in 10. Five other PSS players combined for 29 points.

Pangelinan finished with 27 markers, while Tom Diaz contributed 11. The four other players who scored for CHC totaled only 19 points.

In the second game, Jawn Joyner and Pete Iguel joined forces to give Bank of Guam its second straight victory. Joyner had a team-high 25 points, while Iguel added 21.

A 20-10 start was all BoG needed to gain control of the game en route to an easy win. Dave Palacios led BoG's good start, hitting seven points in the first period, while Joyner and Iguel took over in the succeeding quarters to lift their team to a 12-point win.

With the loss, ARFF dropped to a 0-4 record and remained at the bottom of the standings.

First Game

Bank of Guam 91 – Joyner 25, Iguel 21, Pelisaman 14, Peter 9, G. Palacios 7, D. Palacios 7, Mendiola 6, Taisacan 4.

ARFF 79 – Quitugua 32, J. Reyes 21, Robert 13, R. Sablan 9, Joab 2, Cepeda 2, C. Sablan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-10, 39-20, 63-53, 91-79.

Second Game

PSS 64 – Mendiola 16, Coldeen 10, Ruluked 9, Manibusan 6, Mendez 6, Guerrero 4, Itibus 4, Aughenbaugh 3, Cruz 2.

CHC 59 – Pangelinan 27, Diaz 11, Lisua 7, Fernandez 6, Seidler 5, Duenas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-15, 27-29, 44-41, 64-59.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

PSS' Maverick Itibus, seen here going for a floater against two CPA-Accounting defenders, helped his team beat Commonwealth Health Center in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Fajardo regains 8-ball championship

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Luis Fajardo returned to the winner's podium after going undefeated in the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Tournament championship on Saturday at the Garapan sports bar and watering hole.

Fajardo breezed through the elimination round, beating Mark Butac, R.J. Mascarinas, and Zheng Jian Qing before taking on Erwin Gomez in the semifinals and a crack on the twice-to-beat advantage in the finals.

In that game, Gomez broke but failed to pocket any balls. Fajardo, for his part, started strong by pocketing six balls before missing on his seventh attempt.

Gomez then pocketed three balls but overplayed his fourth shot. Fajardo returned to the table with a clear advantage with only one object ball left hanging by the pocket.

Fajardo wasted no time sinking that ball and the succeeding 8-ball to take the first finals slot and the all-important twice-to-beat advantage in the finals.

Following a series of elimination round games, defending champion Rolly Villanueva beat all comers and challenged Gomez for the second finals slot.

Their semis match started with Villanueva pocketing one ball on the break. He continued to run all his balls but missed on the coveted 8-ball, which was left hanging by the pocket.

The pressure thus was on Gomez since the 8-ball was ever so close to the pocket, plus he also had to deal with his own object balls clustered together.



Fajardo

He pocketed two balls and a safety but the pressure eventually got the better of him as he missed a difficult combination shot that gave control of the table back to Villanueva, who didn't miss the chip-in.

In the championship round, Fajardo broke successfully by pocketing one ball on the break.

He continued to run three more balls but missed on his fourth shot. Villanueva played a safety and Gomez had no choice except to make a legal shot to avoid a foul.

Villanueva returned to the table and could either execute a combination or a medium range shot. He selected the medium range shot but missed.

Sensing the victory, Fajardo played flawlessly on his last three object balls and the 8-ball to regain the championship he lost to Villanueva last week.

The win was worth $80 for Fajardo, while Villaueva and Gomez settled for the $50 and $30 runner-up purses, respectively.

Other pool players that saw action last weekend at Top Pool Bar were Joey Lucido, Tom Mie, Roger Espiritu, Renato Blanco, Roman Rodriguez, Yang Sam, Chester Hamoy, Bradley Demapan, Dean Borja, and Robert Sanciangco.

The Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament is held every Saturday and adopts a double-elimination format with a maximum of 16 players.

The entrance fee is $10 and the tournament uses the rules of the Billiards Congress of America. Practice is free between 7pm to 8pm on game day.

For more information on the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament, call manager Zheng Jian Qing at 287-7676.

IT&E badminton tournament kicks off tomorrow

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Badminton Association will be holding its first major tournament at its new playing facility, the REM Court in Gualo Rai, starting tomorrow.

Dubbed as the IT&E Singles/Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2009, the event will be played for four weekends or until Sept. 28 with games set for every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The singles competition for both the men's and women's divisions is open to three categories, namely A, B, and C. All divisions will have a single round robin format with the Top 4 players advancing to the semifinals. The semifinal round will have knock-out format with the No. 1 player facing the No. 4 seed for the first finals seat and the No. 2 and 3 players battling it out for the second championship berth.

In the mixed doubles, there will be no draws and players are allowed to select their own partners. However, men's B and C players must pick a teammate from their level. Men's A players can choose female players from any level.

All mixed doubles divisions will also have a single round robin format. The Top 4 teams in each division will advance to the next round, but format in the semifinals has yet to be decided.

The Top 3 finishers in both the singles and mixed doubles competitions will receive medals and cash prizes.

Games every Friday and Saturday will run from 6pm to 10pm, while Sunday's matches will be played from 2pm to 6pm.

NMBA is expecting more than 50 players to participate in the month-long tournament.

This weekend's tournament will be the association's first since holding the 2009 IT&E Badminton Doubles Tournament in March at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Saipan to host goodwill table tennis tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association is bringing the 12th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament to Saipan next month.

The biannual event, which Tinian hosted in May this year, will be held on Sept. 5 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Games will start at 9am with players from Saipan and Tinian battling in 64 matches in the round-robin tournament.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian and Saipan players pose for a group photo during the 11th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament held on Tinian in May this year.

Last year, Tinian defeated Saipan, 43-21, to take the championship trophy. Mark Ma and Luke Lu led Tinian's victory with their identical 8-0 records in the singles competition. Saipan's Young Soon Roh settled for third place after getting a 6-2 record. Roh's losses were against Lu and Ma.

In the five and a half years that Saipan players have been dueling Tinian in the goodwill tournament, the former's score in the event early this year was their lowest, according to Saipan's Budhi Gurung.

Gurung hopes this time Saipan players will recover and grab the championships from Tinian. Gurung and Roh are expected to play for Saipan, anew next month along with several members of the Korean Ping Pong Association.

"A lot of Saipan players had already left so we need to get players from the Korean association to form a team against Tinian," Gurung said.

Gurung said three members of the association will be joining forces with MATTA president Steve Lim, Jean Shi, and Guam's Hisamitsu Hamamoto. Saipan players are practicing with the members of the Korean association every Tuesday and Thursday to prepare for the goodwill tournament.

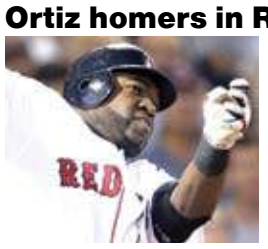
The combined players of Saipan and the Korean Association will be playing against Lu and Ma and former Saipan mainstay Su Yong Dong, Robin Lu, Liang Wei Bin, Alfred Yue, Bright Liu, and Charlie Cheng.

The goodwill tournament will also feature a doubles competition, but Gurung said the format has yet to be determined, as it will depend on the availability of the venue. He said they are allowed to play at the Ada gym only until 8pm.

"There will be a total of eight pairs and they can play either in a round-robin or knockout matches," Gurung said.

In the tournament on Tinian, Roh and Shi defeated Mark Ma and Liang in the finals, 3-2.

Ortiz homers in Red Sox win over White Sox



David Ortiz hit his second homer of the game to break a ninth-inning tie and give the Boston Red Sox a 3-2 victory over the Chicago White Sox in the American League on Wednesday. **32**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

BoG, PSS gain second straight victory

Bank of Guam and Public School System started their first streak in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League after recording contrasting wins on Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. **35**



Fernandez top finisher for CNMI

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Jodel Fernandez gave the CNMI its best place in the ITF Oceania Plate Tournament, finishing third in the Girls Juniors on Wednesday at the Goodman Fielder International Regional Tennis Centre in Lautoka, Fiji.

Fernandez lost her debut in the OTF tournament on Sunday, but managed to advance to the semifinals after sweeping her last two games in Pool B.

The Marianas Baptist Academy student won over Tonga's Simuoko Afemui, 6-0, 6-0, on Monday, and then against Samoa's Sina Lavea on Tuesday, 6-1, 6-3, to finish second in Pool B. Fiji's Tanya Guttersberger, who defeated Fernandez in the opening day, 3-6, 1-6, topped Pool B and was paired with Pool A No. 2 placer New Caledonia's Jessie Daulaca in the semis.

Fernandez was pitted against Pool A top finisher Isabella Carruthers of Samoa in the other semis duel.

Carruthers took the first set, 6-3, but Fernandez refused to give up, recovering in the second set with an impressive 6-2 win to extend the game. The third set was a close fight with Carruthers showing enough juice

See FERNANDEZ on Page 34



Fernandez

Sonics rout Ol'Aces in Rotary debut

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Sonics gave Ol'Aces a rude welcome in the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League via a 51-28 demolition in their debut game on Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

A second half run allowed the Sonics to turn a 14-all game at halftime to a one-sided affair in the second half.

The Jesse Tudela-coached Sonics had a 15-2 run in the first seven minutes of the second half to break the deadlock and take a commanding 13-point lead, 29-16.

Ol'Aces continued their struggle, offensively, in the remaining minutes of the game to lose their debut.

Successive fouls slowed the offensive pace of the Sonics-Ol'Aces tiff in the first half before the former found their rhythm in the second to cruise to an easy victory.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Sonics' Dae Won Jeon loses the ball, as he banged into Ol'Aces' Wes Tomokane during their game in the Rotary caging on Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



CNMI outclassed in Taiwan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Women's National Football Team suffered a beating from South Korea on Wednesday night in the East Asian Football Federation Women's Football Championship 2010 Semifinals Competition at the Tainan County Stadium, in Tainan County, Taiwan.

South Korea handed the CNMI its worst loss in three games via a 19-0 rout in the second game of the doubleheader of the day.

CNMI coach Sugao Kambe, who said the Commonwealth's female strikers were lacking in juice in their 0-10 loss to Hong Kong on Monday, was hoping to get a better game from his wards against the tougher Koreans.

However, the FIFA world-ranked No. 21 South Korea was too much for

See CNMI on Page 34

CNMI's Elisa Fejeran, left, defends a South Korean player during their game in the East Asian Football Federation Women's Football Championship 2010 Semifinals Competition on Wednesday at the Tainan County Stadium, in Tainan County, Taiwan.

WWW.EAFF.COM

Tough guys

Back when the Beatles and Rolling Stones were taking over the world, I was collecting baseball cards. My trading forays brought me in contact with other boys in new neighborhoods which turned into a fascination for old cards.

Old cards tell of a time and place we can never know but can make of it whatever we choose. Holding a 1952 Mickey Mantle baseball card is nostalgia to the max.

From baseball, I ventured into old football cards which were harder to find. Never saw basketball cards as a kid but later I discovered some amazing boxing cards, including one of Kid Chocolate, the coolest nickname next to Choo Choo Coleman.

One card in particular provoked my imagination: made in 1910 by Mecca Cigarettes, a color drawing of men in straw hats and bowlers watching two boxers in a ring. The front says "FIGHT BETWEEN John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain". The back says, "Battle of JOHN L. SULLIVAN and JAKE KILRAIN. Held at Richburg, Miss., on July 8, 1889, this was the last fight with bare knuckles and lasted 75 rounds, London Prize Ring Rules; the contest was for the championship and the Police Gazette diamond belt valued at $5,000; the referee was John Fitzpatrick of New Orleans. Sullivan was the victor."

When I read that for the first time, John L. Sullivan became one of my sports heroes as I cannot even imagine fighting 75 rounds. And so was Jake Kilrain even if he lost. Heck, he earned my respect simply by lasting that long.

The old boxing card only hinted at the full story of this epic

See TOUGH on Page 34

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2

